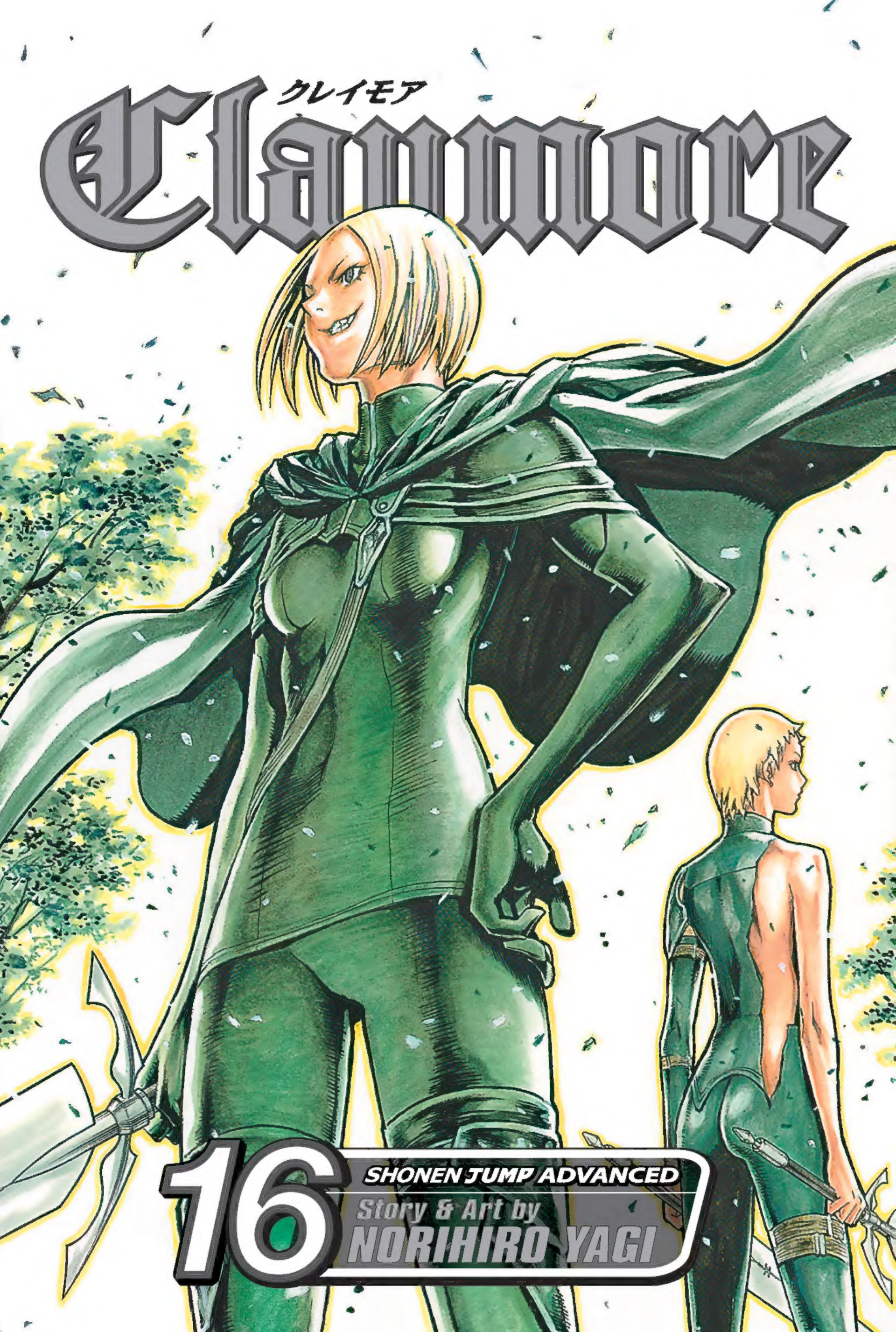
クレイモア

Claymore

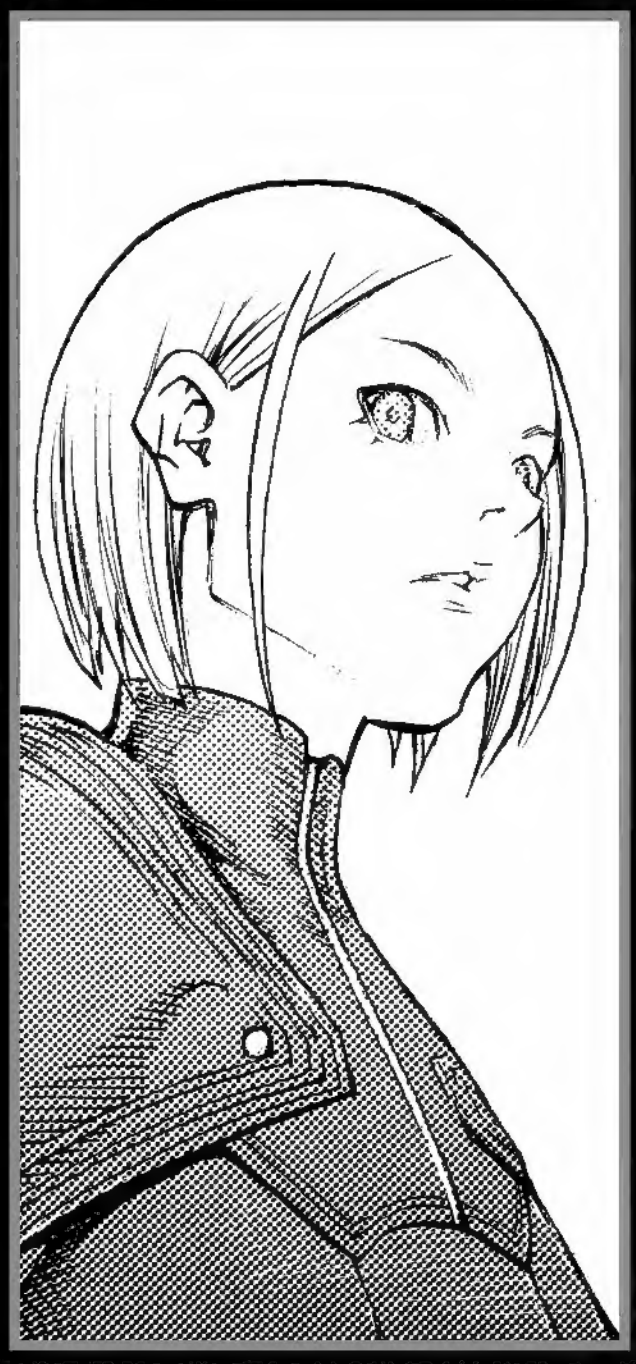


16

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED

Story & Art by

NORIHIRO YAGI



Norihiro Yagi won the 32nd Akatsuka Award for his debut work, *UNDEADMAN*, which appeared in *Monthly Shonen Jump* magazine and produced two sequels. His first serialized manga was his comedy *Angel Densetsu* (Angel Legend), which appeared in *Monthly Shonen Jump* from 1992 to 2000. His epic saga, *Claymore*, is running in *Monthly Jump Square* magazine.

In his spare time, Yagi enjoys things like the Japanese comedic duo Downtown, martial arts, games, driving, and hard rock music, but he doesn't consider these actual hobbies.

CLAYMORE VOL. 16
SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY
NORIHIRO YAGI

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Editor/Leyla Aker

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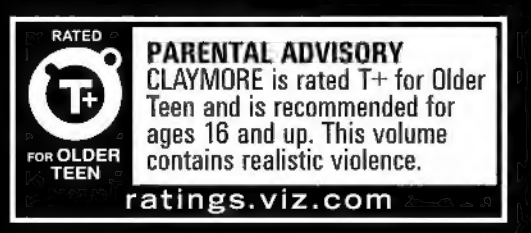

RATED
T+
FOR OLDER TEEN
PARENTAL ADVISORY
CLAYMORE is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. This volume contains realistic violence.
ratings.viz.com

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED Manga Edition

Claymore

クレイモア

Vol. 16
The Lamentation of the Earth

Story and Art by **Norihiro Yagi**

The Story Thus Far

Creatures known as Yoma have long preyed on humans, who were once powerless against their predators. But now mankind has developed female warriors who are half human and half monster, with silver eyes that can see the monsters' true form. These warriors came to be called Claymores after the immense broadswords that they carried.

It's seven years after the Battle of the North, and Clare and her comrades have come to the holy city of Rabona. In the aftermath of their battle with the Awakened Being Agatha, Miria reveals some shocking truths about the Organization. As Clare departs Rabona on a new journey, she runs into Rubel, the man who used to be her Watcher for the Organization.

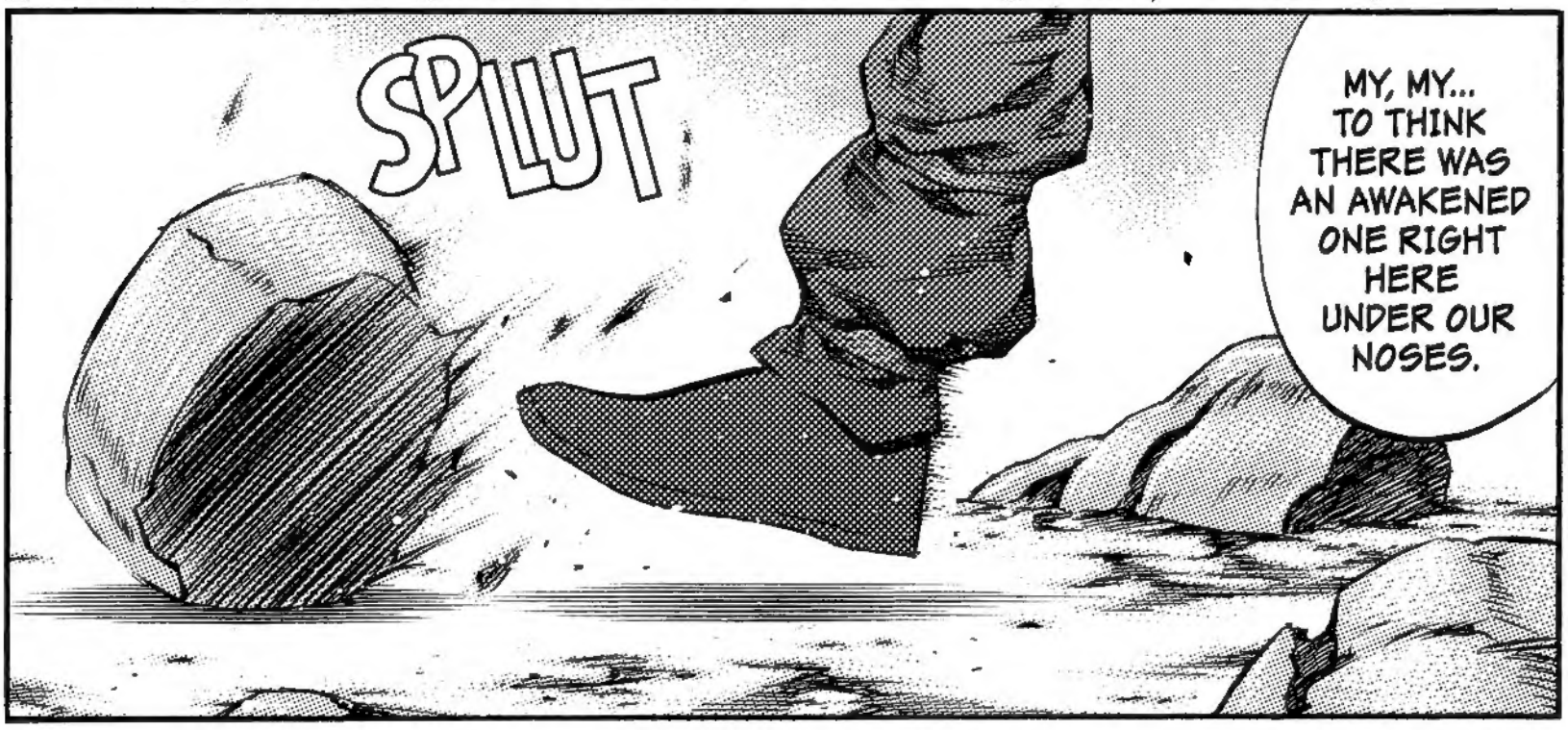
クレイモア Claymore

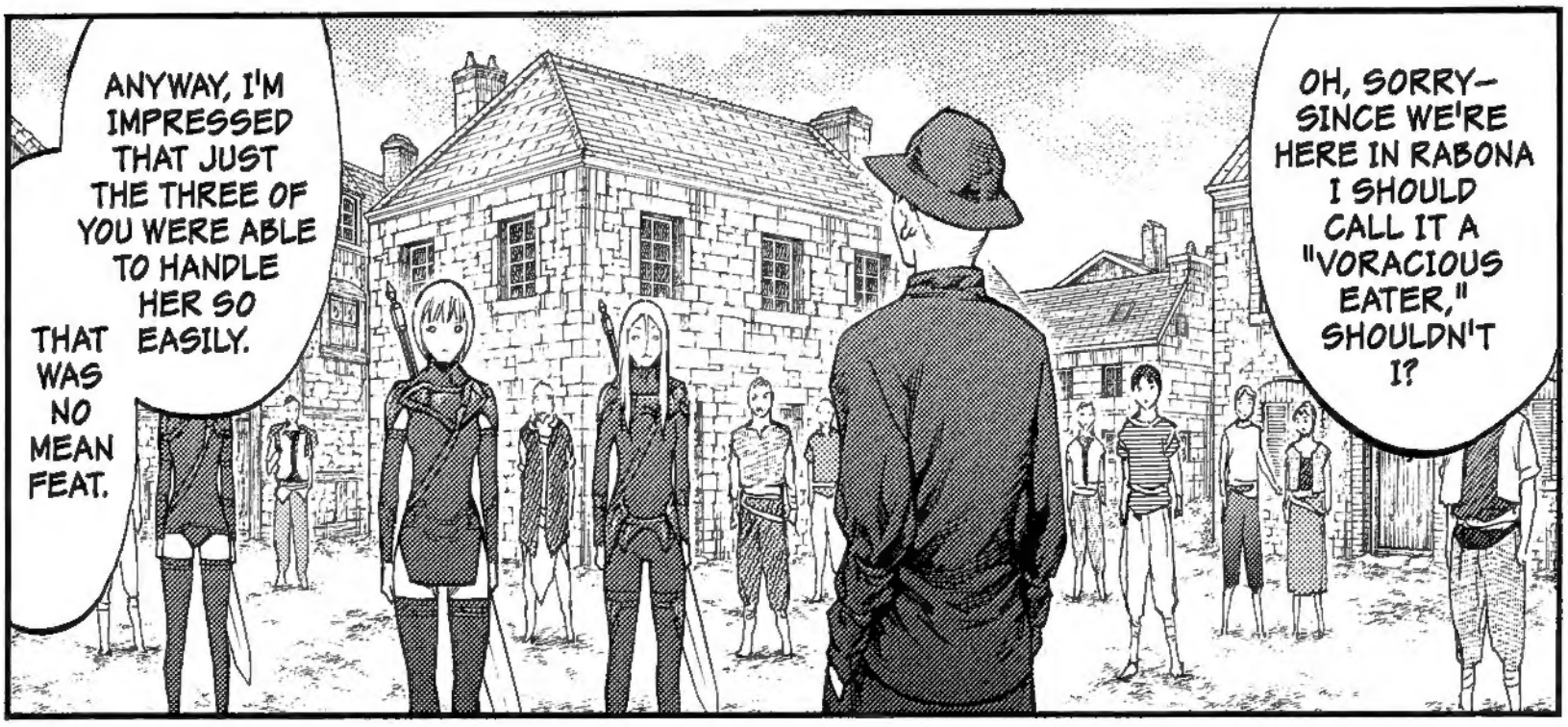
Vol. 16

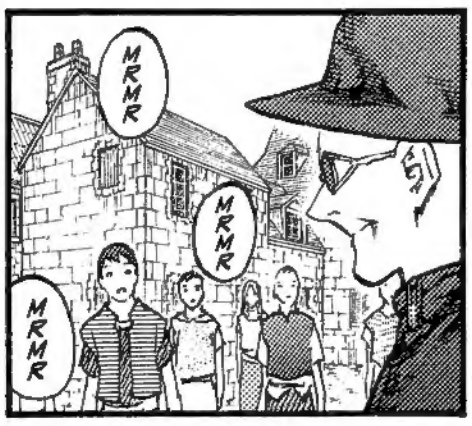
CONTENTS

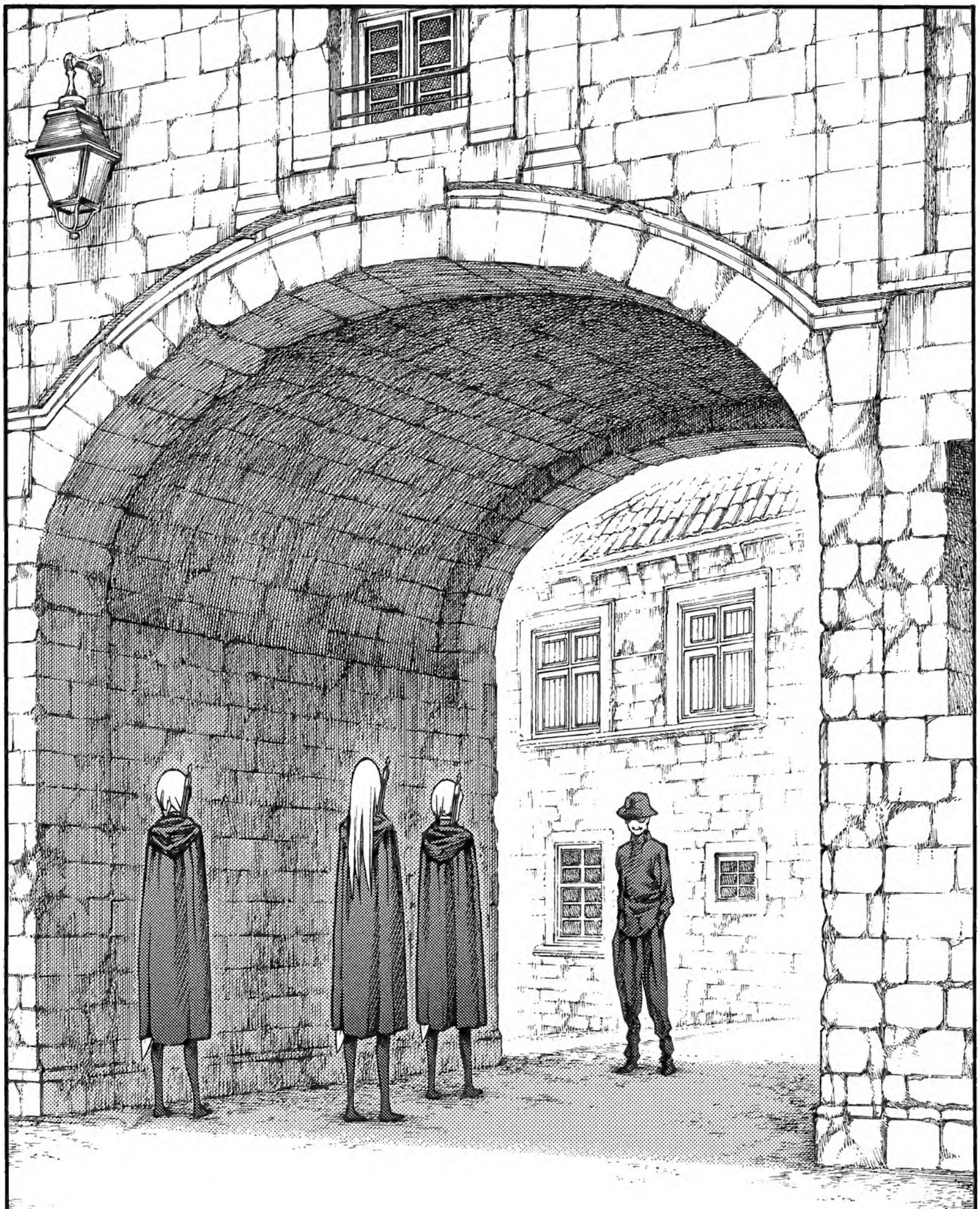
Scene 84	The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 2	7
Scene 85	The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 3	39
Scene 86	The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 4	71
Scene 87	The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 5	103
Scene 88	The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 6	127
Scene 89	The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 7	159

Scene 84: The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 2

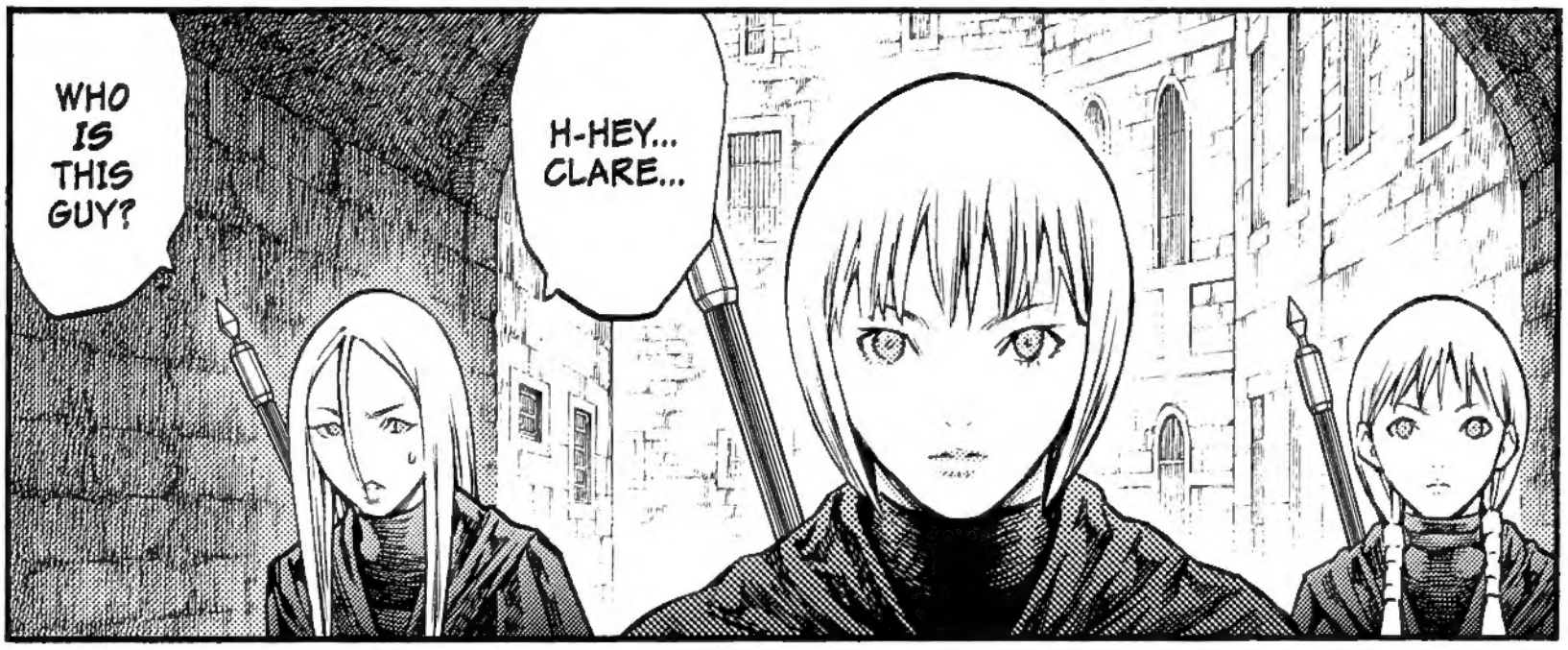


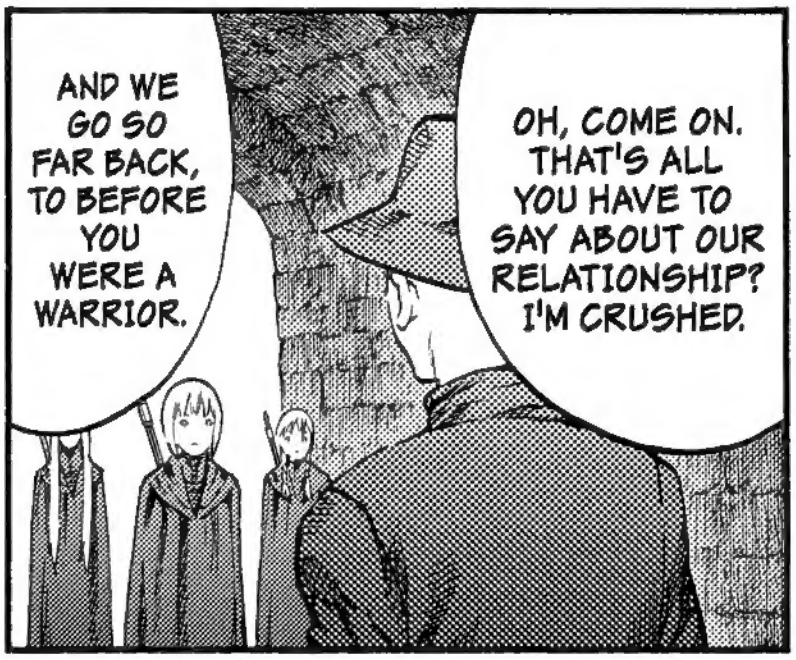

ANYWAY, I'M IMPRESSED THAT JUST THE THREE OF YOU WERE ABLE TO HANDLE HER SO EASILY. THAT WAS NO MEAN FEAT.
OH, SORRY— SINCE WE'RE HERE IN RABONA I SHOULD CALL IT A "VORACIOUS EATER," SHOULDN'T I?

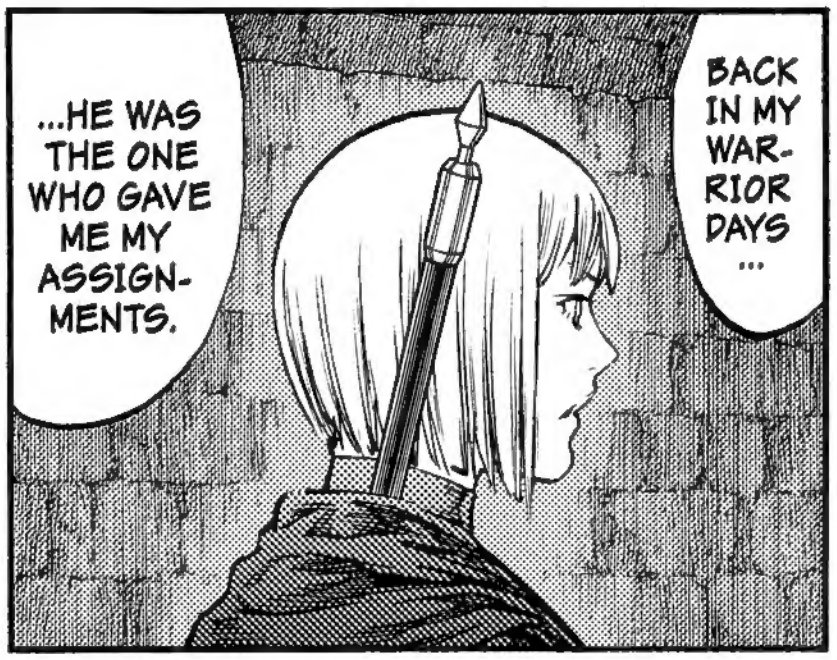


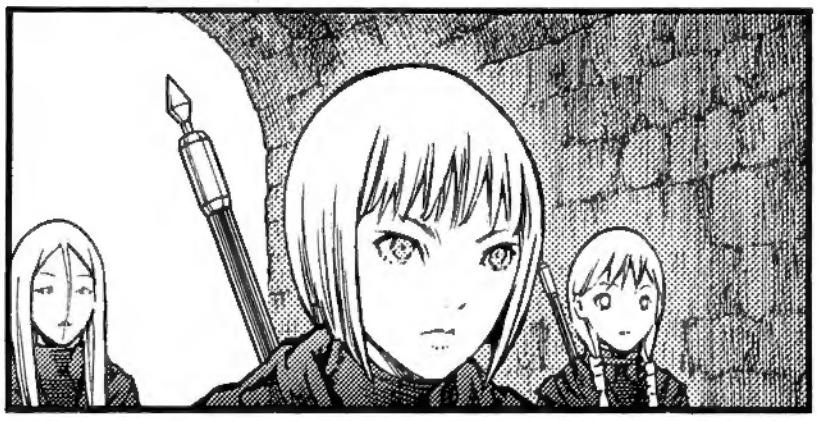


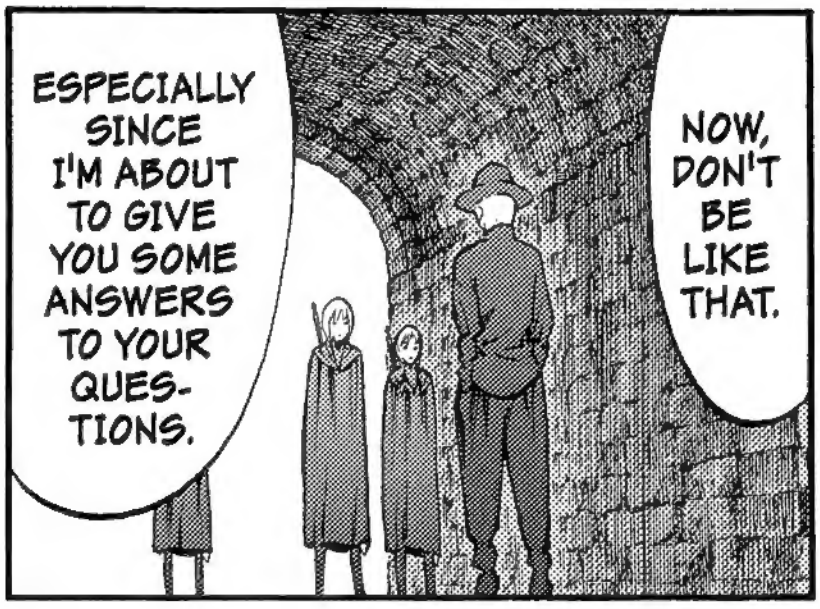
Scene 83: The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 2

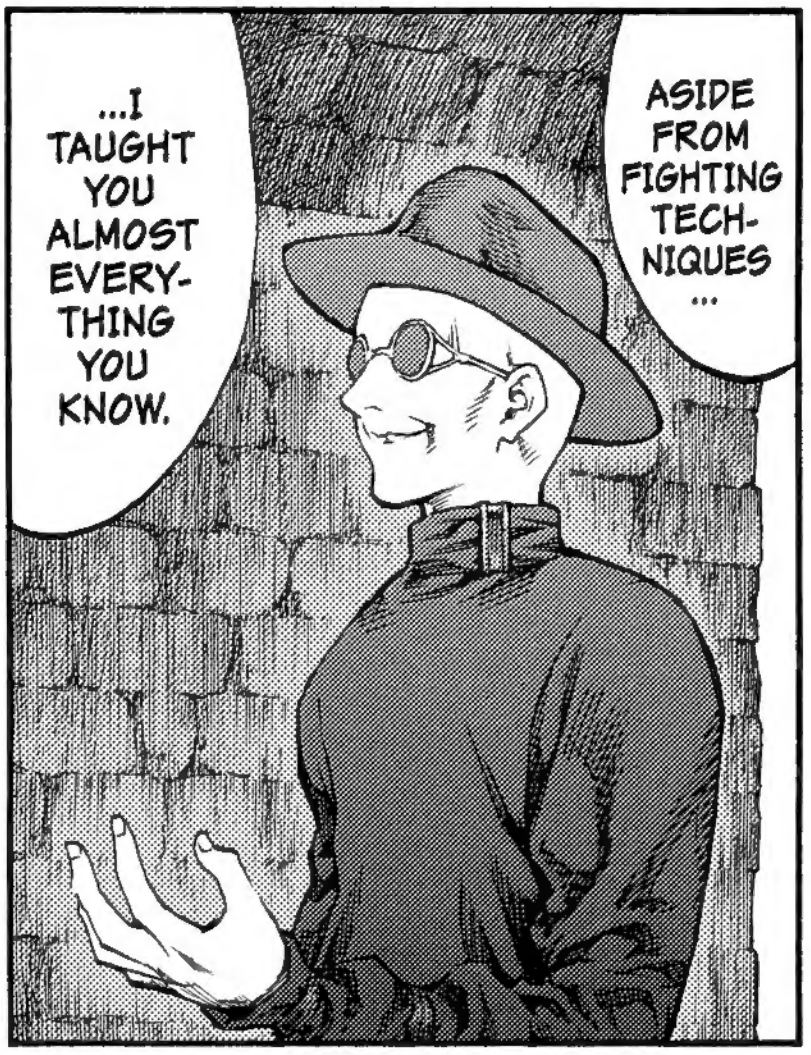

WHO IS THIS GUY?
H-HEY... CLARE...


AND WE GO SO FAR BACK, TO BEFORE YOU WERE A WARRIOR.
OH, COME ON. THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP? I'M CRUSHED.


...HE WAS THE ONE WHO GAVE ME MY ASSIGN-MENTS.
BACK IN MY WAR-RIOR DAYS ...




ESPECIALLY SINCE I'M ABOUT TO GIVE YOU SOME ANSWERS TO YOUR QUES-TIONS.
NOW, DON'T BE LIKE THAT.


...I TAUGHT YOU ALMOST EVERY-THING YOU KNOW.
ASIDE FROM FIGHTING TECH-NIQUES ...

...TO SEARCH FOR A WARRIOR WHO'S GONE MISSING IN THE WEST.

AS WE SPEAK, THE ORGAN-IZATION IS MOBILIZING ITS FORCES...

WHAT?

SHE'S DISAP-PEARED.

NUMBER 6, RENÉE.

BUT SHE PARTICU-LARLY EXCELS AT LONG-RANGE AURA DETECTION.

SHE IS THE ORGANI-ZATION'S "EYES" FOR THIS GENERATION.

AS HER NUMBER INDICATES, RENÉE IS STRONG.

READ THIS WAY

...WE RECEIVED AN INTER-ESTING BIT OF INFORMA-TION.

RIGHT AROUND THE TIME THAT WE LOST CONTACT WITH HER...

!

...FAILED A MISSION. IT SEEMS THAT AFTER BEING ATTACKED BY RIFUL OF THE WEST, THEY WERE SAVED BY AN UNKNOWN PARTY.

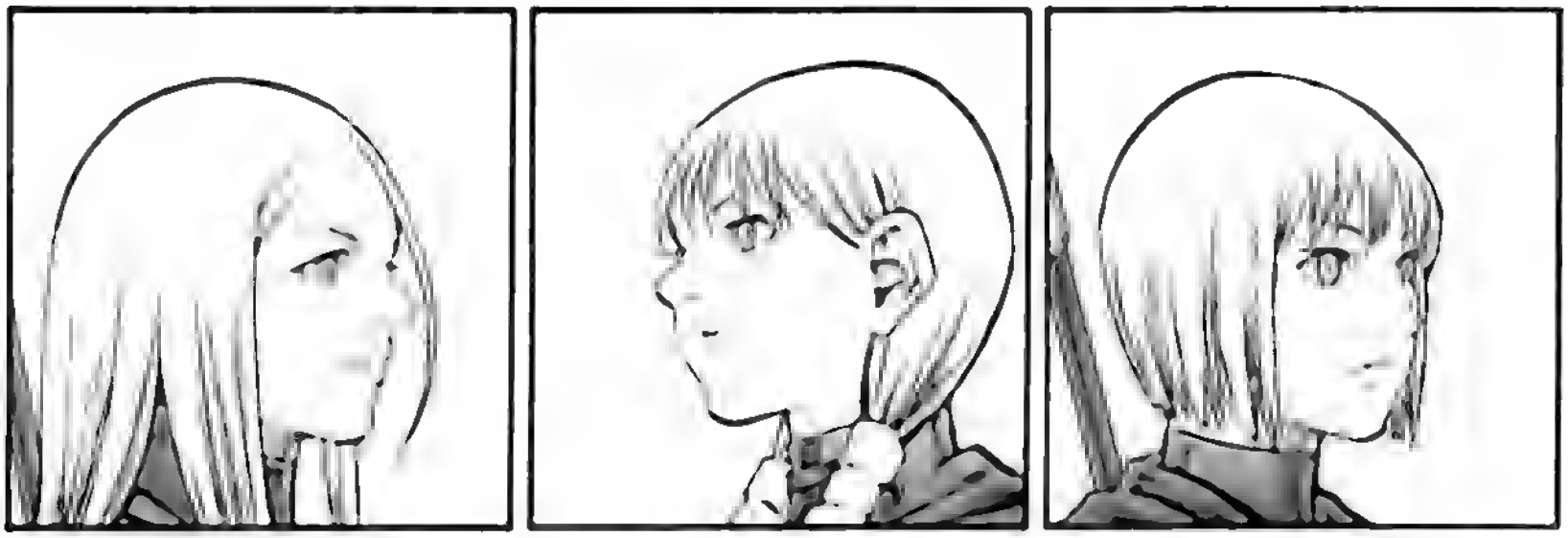
A GROUP OF HIGH-RANKING WAR-RIORS ...

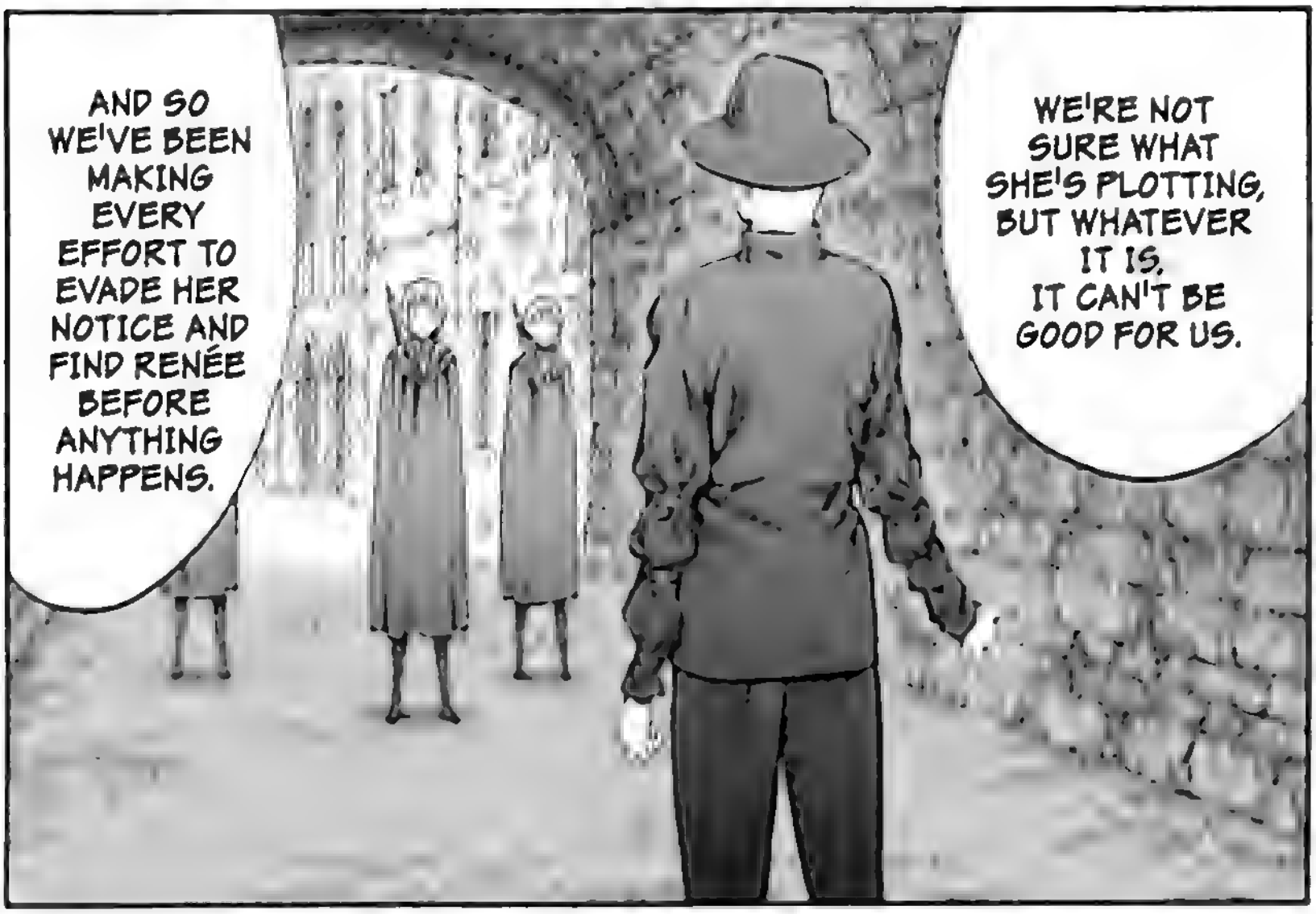
SHE'S LOOKING FOR A WARRIOR SKILLED IN AURA DETECTION.

NOW WHAT COULD SHE WANT WITH SOMEONE LIKE THAT, HM?

BUT WE WERE MORE CONCERNED BY SOMETHING RIFUL SAID.

OF COURSE WE WANTED TO FIND OUT WHO IT WAS.




AND SO WE'VE BEEN MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO EVADE HER NOTICE AND FIND RENÉE BEFORE ANYTHING HAPPENS.
WE'RE NOT SURE WHAT SHE'S PLOTTING, BUT WHATEVER IT IS, IT CAN'T BE GOOD FOR US.

...IT'S NOT UNREASON-ABLE TO ASSUME THAT SHE'S GOTTEN HER HANDS ON SOMETHING THAT SHE WANTS TO AWAKEN.
ANYWAY, IF RIFUL'S AFTER SOMEONE WHO'S SKILLED AT READING YOMA ENERGY ...

READ THIS WAY

!

WHAT DO YOU THINK IT IS?

SO THIS THING THAT RIFUL HAS FOUND...

SEVEN YEARS AGO...

...A WARRIOR KILLED LUCIELA, THE ABYSSAL ONE OF THE SOUTH.

OUT WITH IT.

I DO HAVE ONE GUESS, ALTHOUGH THERE'S NO WAY TO CONFIRM IT.

SHARP AS EVER, I SEE.

I THINK IT'S HER REMAINS.

RAFAELA, NUMBER 5 OF HER GENER-ATION.

CAN YOU SEE ANY-THING?
WELL?

I CAN'T CONCEN-TRATE...
P... PLEASE ....
LET ME REGEN-ERATE MY LIMBS FIRST...

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

YOU DON'T THINK I'D ACTUALLY CONSIDER IT, DO YOU?

GOODNESS, WHAT A SILLY REQUEST.

MY SPECIALTY IS LONG-RANGE SEARCHING. THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M GOOD AT DEEP PROBING FOR ENERGY IN A SINGLE OBJECT!

I'M SERI-OUS!

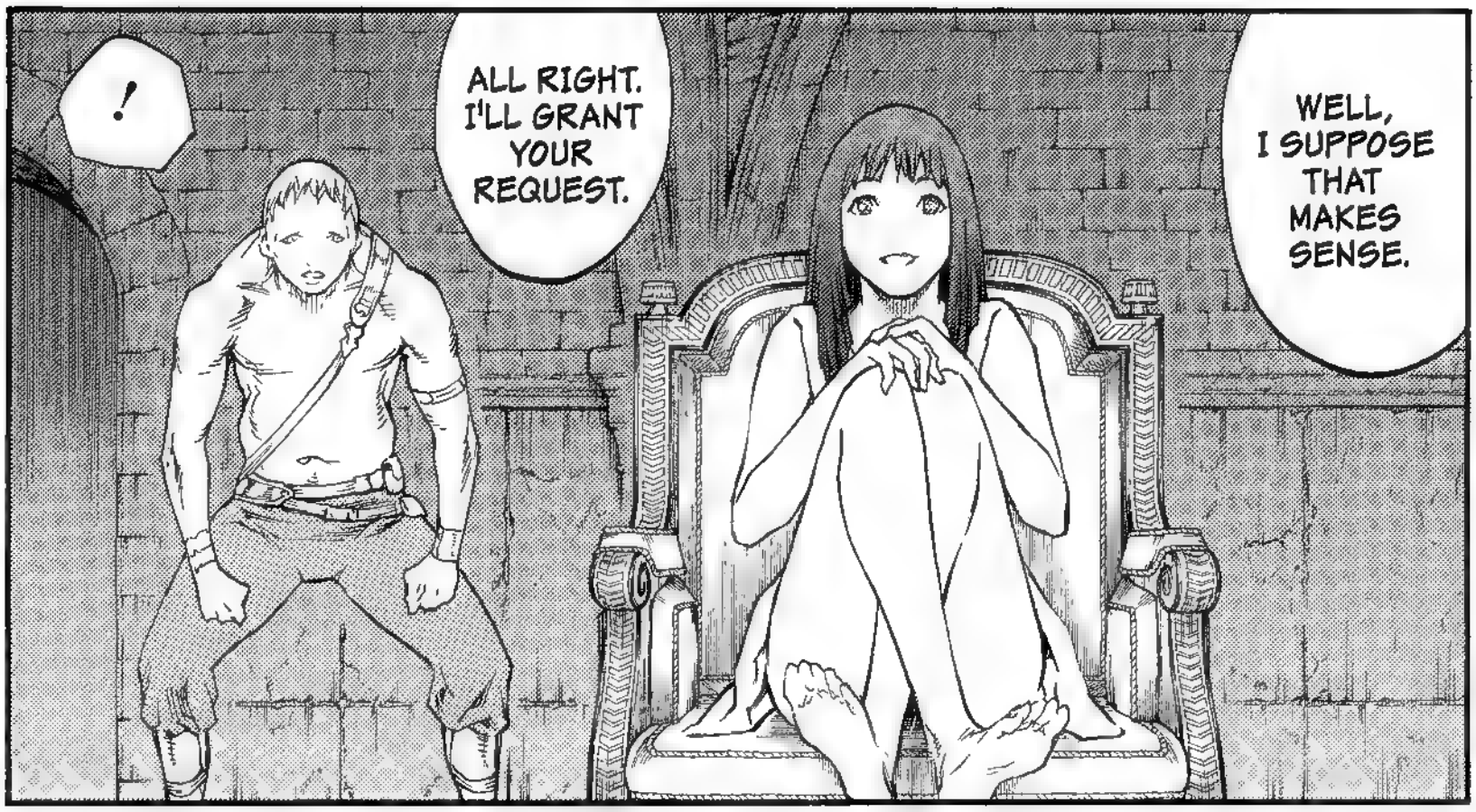
RIGHT NOW, IT'S ALL I CAN DO JUST TO STAY CON-SCIOUS!

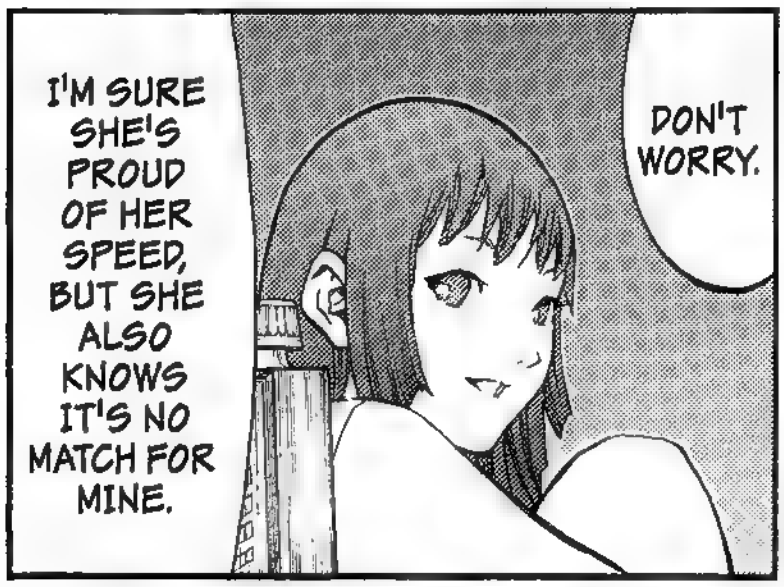
I'M NOT LYING! PLEASE BELIEVE ME!

AT THE VERY LEAST, I NEED A WHOLE BODY TO TRY IT...

I CAN'T DO IT IF I'M DISTRACTED BY HOW MUCH TIME I HAVE LEFT TO REGEN-ERATE MY LIMBS!

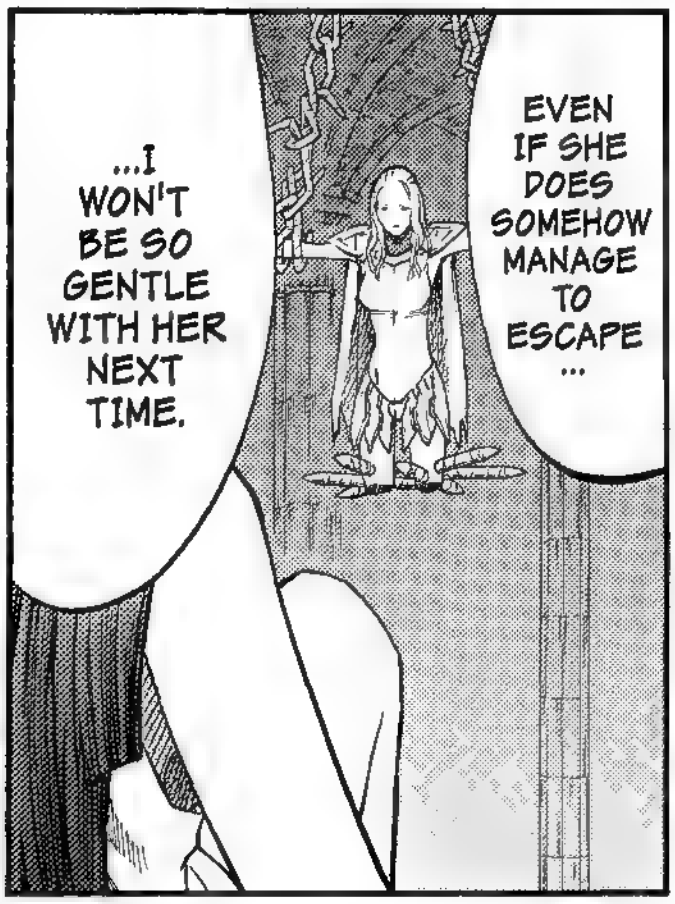
AND ON TOP OF THAT, I'LL HAVE TO PENETRATE PAST DEEP LAYERS OF CONSCIOUS-NESS THAT ARE COMPLETELY SEALED!


!
ALL RIGHT. I'LL GRANT YOUR REQUEST.
WELL, I SUPPOSE THAT MAKES SENSE.


I'M SURE SHE'S PROUD OF HER SPEED, BUT SHE ALSO KNOWS IT'S NO MATCH FOR MINE.
DON'T WORRY.

IF YOU DO THAT SHE'LL GET AWAY!
NO, RIFUL!

...YOU'D BEST NOT FORGET THAT.
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE TURNED INTO A LITTLE PILE OF SHREDDED MEAT...


...I WON'T BE SO GENTLE WITH HER NEXT TIME.
EVEN IF SHE DOES SOMEHOW MANAGE TO ESCAPE ...

READ THIS WAY

TAKE HER OFF HER CHAINS.

GO ON, DAUF.

GULP

KLANK

NGH ...

THROB

GA-SHAK

AGH!

KRSH

IF YOU BETRAY RIFUL AND RUN...

I'LL BASH YER HEAD IN.

LISTEN, BITCH.

THUD

HURRY UP AND START.

WHAT ARE YOU DO-ING?

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

BUT IT WOULD BE FASTER TO RE-ATTACH YOUR LEGS.

YOU'LL HAVE TO REGEN-ERATE YOUR ARM.

THEY HAVEN'T BEEN OFF FOR LONG, SO THEY'RE STILL FRESH.

!

IF I HAVE EVEN THE SLIGHTEST SUSPICION THAT YOU'RE STALLING FOR TIME, I'LL SEND YOUR HEAD FLYING.

BE QUICK ABOUT IT.

GRIP

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

BIKI
BIKI
BIKI
BIKI
WHOM
BIKI
BIKI
BIKI
BIKI
DEEP IN ITS CON-SCIOUS-NESS ...
BIKI
BIKI
BIKI
BIKI
BIKI
BIKI

IN THE MIDST OF AN ENDLESS DARKNESS, IT WAS THERE.

DOWN IN THE LOWEST LEVELS...

A FRAGMENT OF LIFE... IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL WHICH ONE IT BELONGED TO.

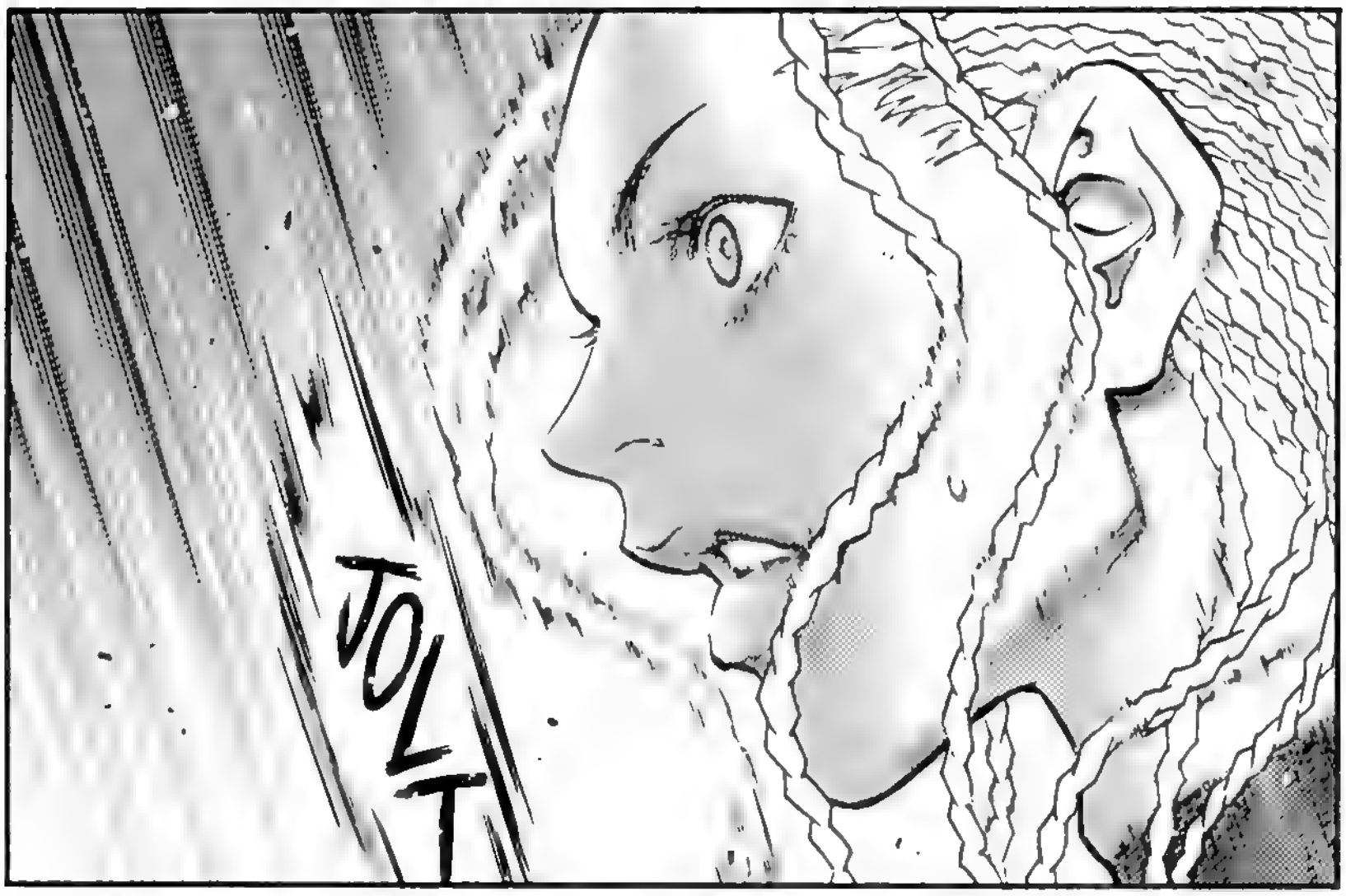
THE FUSION OF THEIR TWO SOULS.

BUT...

SO WEAK I DIDN'T DARE TO EVEN TOUCH IT.

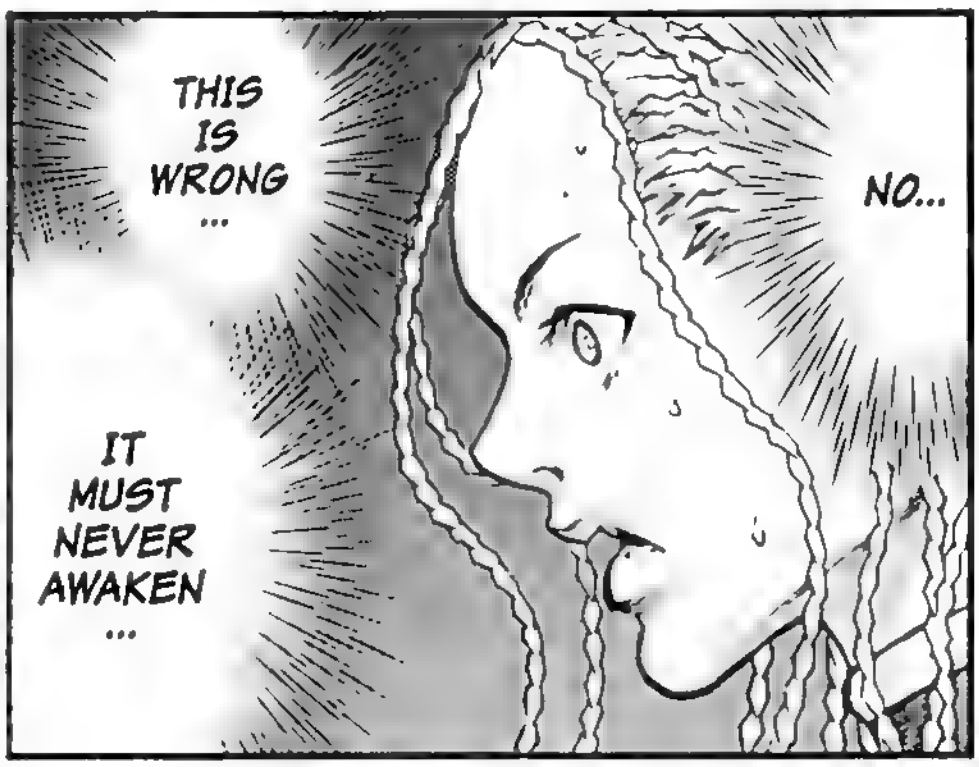
A FAINT GLOW LIKE A MIST FLOATING IN THE DARKNESS THAT WOULD DISAPPEAR WITH A SINGLE BREATH.

DOOM


JOLT

...WAS AN UNFATHOM-ABLE YOMA ENERGY, POWERFUL ENOUGH TO TEAR APART MY SOUL IN AN INSTANT.
HIDDEN DEEP IN THE LOWEST LEVELS I COULD DIVE TO...

GA SHAK


THIS IS WRONG ...
NO...
IT MUST NEVER AWAKEN ...

READ THIS WAY

!

IF YOU EVEN *SEEM* LIKE YOU'RE STALLING, YOUR HEAD WILL—

DID I NOT MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?

REGEN-ERATING AND REATTACH-ING...

HUFF

SOR... SORRY ...

I'M NOT USED TO DOING IT, SO... I GOT... DISORI-ENTED...

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

IT WOULD BE A WASTE IF YOU DIED OF BLOOD LOSS BEFORE YOU WERE DONE HEALING.

ANYWAY, JUST CONCEN-TRATE ON ATTACHING YOUR LEGS.

YOU'RE WHITE AS A GHOST.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

ZSH

BIKI

BIKI

BIKI

BO OM

...ONE IS STRONGER? RIFUL, THE ABYSSAL ONE OF THE WEST, OR THAT THING? I'VE NO WAY OF KNOWING.

WHICH ...

SO WILL THAT LUMP OF A MAN NEXT TO RIFUL.

AND THE MOMENT IT AWAKENS, I WILL BE OBLITERATED.

THE ONLY THING THAT WILL SURVIVE IS THE CREATURE OF THE ABYSS... THAT'S HOW MASSIVE IT WILL BE.

BUT I DO KNOW ONE THING FOR CER-TAIN.

IF IT IS RELEASED, EVEN FOR A MOMENT, SOMETHING TERRIBLE BEYOND ANYTHING WE CAN IMAGINE WILL BE BORN.

READ THIS WAY

...NO MATTER WHAT...

I NEED MY LEGS, BECAUSE ...

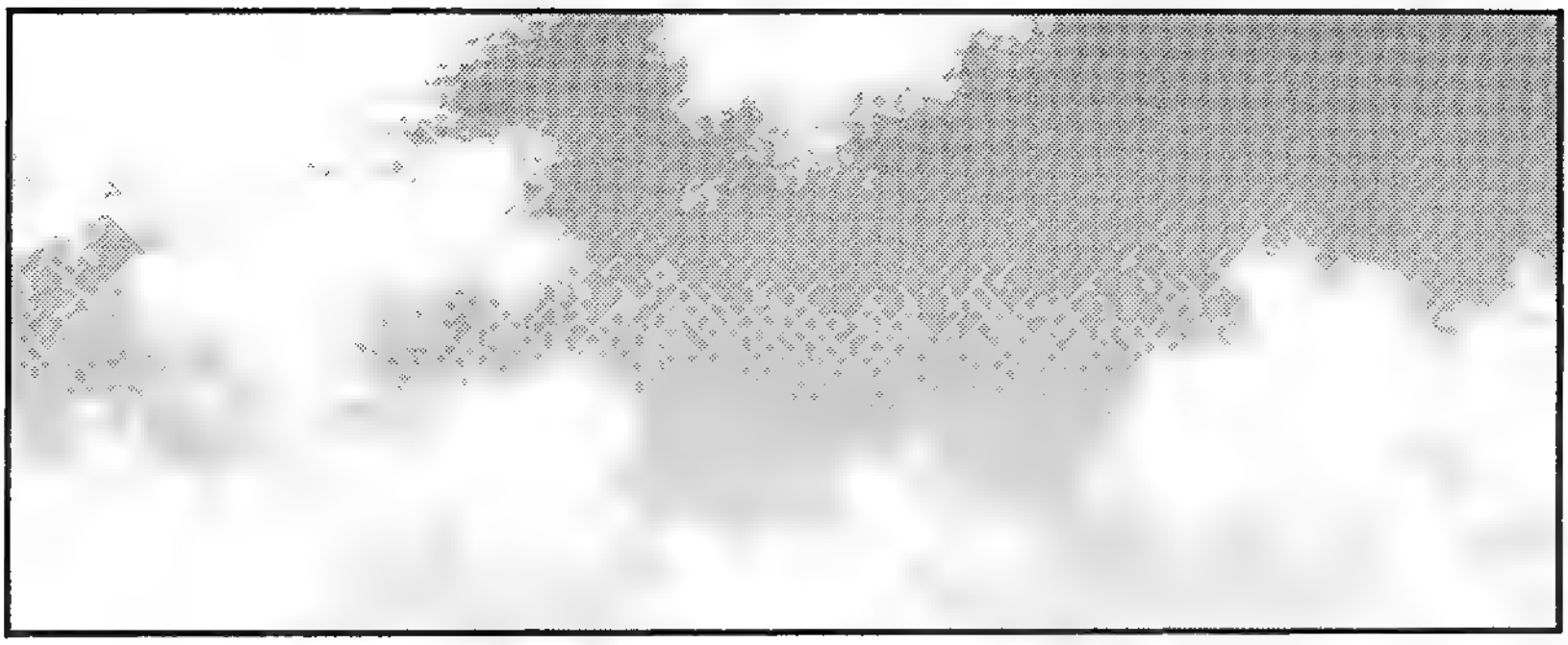
...I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE.

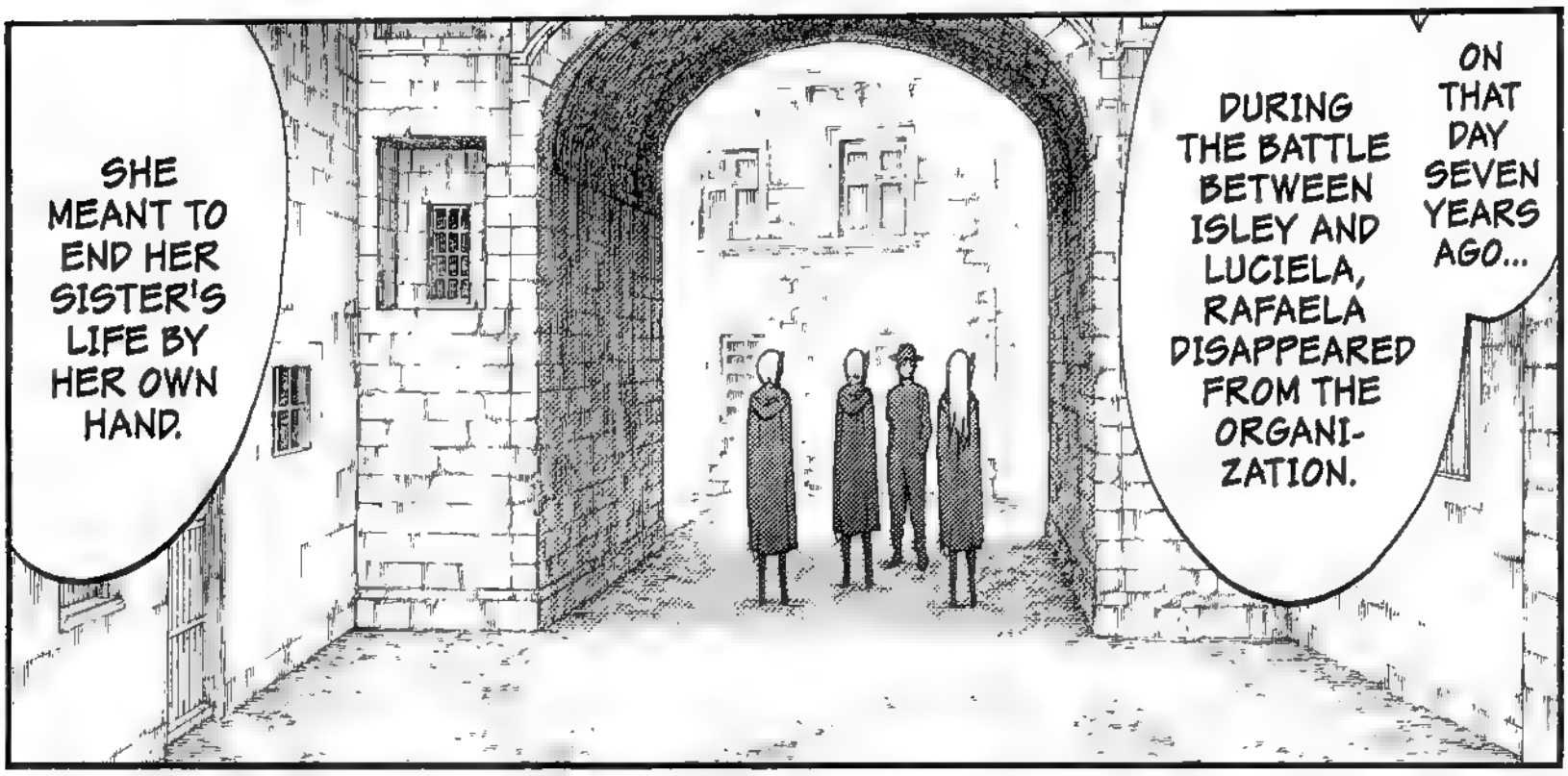
THE ONLY THING I NEED RIGHT NOW IS A BODY THAT CAN GET ME OUT OF HERE AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.

THERE'S NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT MY RIGHT HAND.

...OF DYING IN A BATTLE BETWEEN TWO MONSTERS.

SORRY, BUT I HAVE NO INTENTION ...




SHE MEANT TO END HER SISTER'S LIFE BY HER OWN HAND.
DURING THE BATTLE BETWEEN ISLEY AND LUCIELA, RAFAELA DISAPPEARED FROM THE ORGANI-ZATION.
ON THAT DAY SEVEN YEARS AGO...

AT THE SAME TIME, WE LEARNED THAT ISLEY AND RIFUL HAD MADE CONTACT IN THE SOUTH.
THESE ARE THE FACTS THAT LED ME TO MY CONJECTURE.
IN THE END ISLEY WON THE BATTLE, BUT AFTER THAT LUCIELA'S CORPSE AND RAFAELA'S WHEREABOUTS WERE NEVER FOUND.

READ THIS WAY

IF RAFAELA COULD BE AWAKENED AND USED, THE BALANCE OF POWER IN THIS LAND WOULD SHIFT DRAMATICALLY.

RAFAELA AND LUCIELA POSSESSED JUST ABOUT AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF STRENGTH.

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM US?

SO...

I'M JUST GIVING YOU THE INFORMATION YOU'VE BEEN SEEKING.

WHATEVER YOU DO AFTER THIS IS NONE OF MY CONCERN.

NO SPECIAL REASON BEYOND THAT.

I JUST WANTED TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN WEIGHING YOU DOWN.

NOTHING.

LIKE I SAID, WE'RE OLD FRIENDS.

...WHEN I TOLD HER ABOUT THE WAR ON THE OTHER CONTINENT.

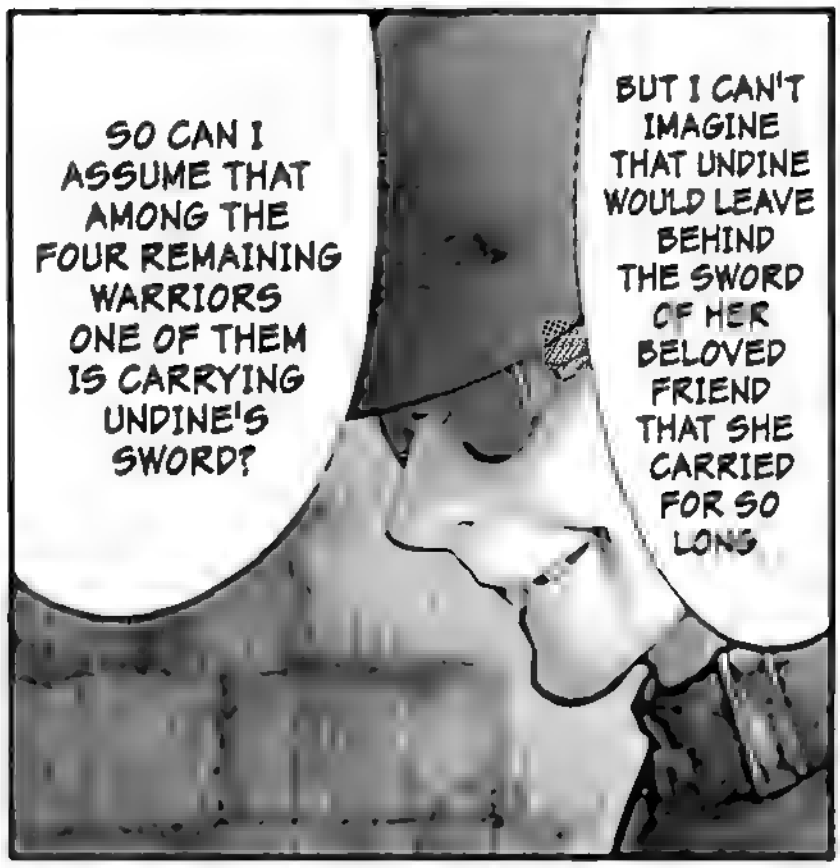
YOU'RE FREE TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.

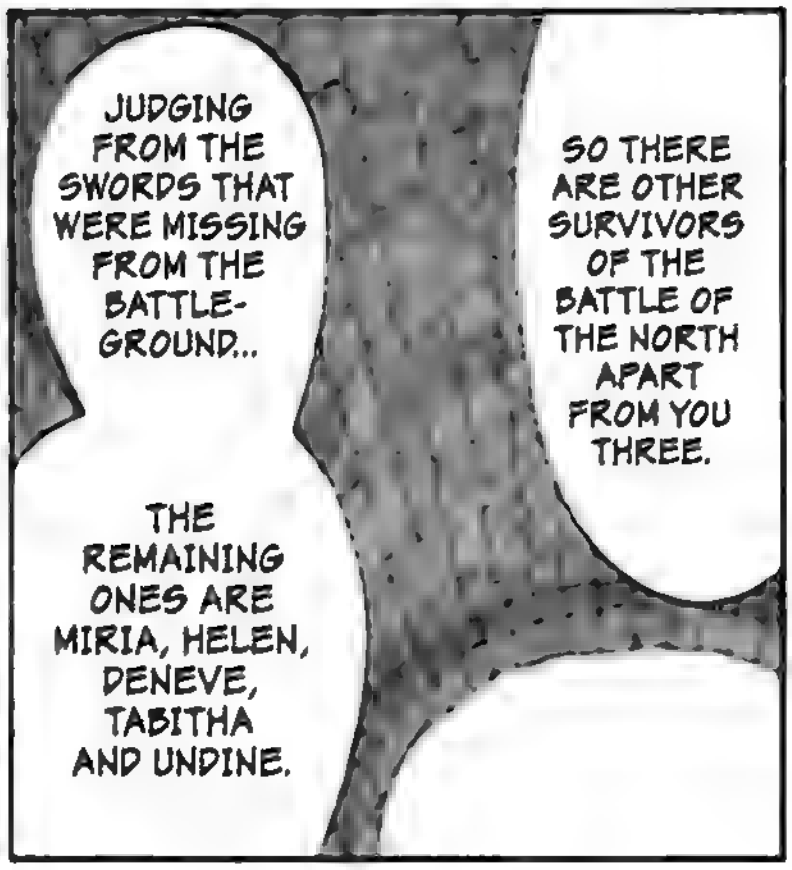
I SAID THE SAME THING TO MIRIA...

HUH?!

!

THAT MEANS SHE'S STILL ALIVE TOO.
I SEE... YOU'VE ALREADY HEARD ABOUT IT.


SO CAN I ASSUME THAT AMONG THE FOUR REMAINING WARRIORS ONE OF THEM IS CARRYING UNDINE'S SWORD?
BUT I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT UNDINE WOULD LEAVE BEHIND THE SWORD OF HER BELOVED FRIEND THAT SHE CARRIED FOR SO LONG


JUDGING FROM THE SWORDS THAT WERE MISSING FROM THE BATTLE-GROUND...
THE REMAINING ONES ARE MIRIA, HELEN, DENEVE, TABITHA AND UNDINE.
SO THERE ARE OTHER SURVIVORS OF THE BATTLE OF THE NORTH APART FROM YOU THREE.

AT THIS POINT, SURELY YOU CAN MAKE A GOOD GUESS?

WELL, NOW.

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

YOU BAS-TARD ...

HE'S ONE OF THE ENEMIES OF THE ORGANI-ZATION.

!

EH?

SO THAT MUST MEAN YOU'RE A SPY, RIGHT?

THAT IS, HE'S FROM THE SIDE THAT OPPOSES THE ORGANI-ZATION'S SIDE IN THE WAR ON THE OTHER CONTINENT.

READ THIS WAY

IF HE'S ONE OF THE ORGANI-ZATION'S ENEMIES...

THAT MEANS HE HAS THE SAME GOAL AS US. DOESN'T THAT MEAN HE MIGHT BECOME OUR ALLY?

W-WAIT A MINUTE!

IN A SENSE, HE'S EVEN MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE ORGANI-ZATION.

HE'S NOT GIVING US INFORMATION BECAUSE HE WANTS TO HELP US.

DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA.

...SINCE WE HAVE SUCH A DEEP RELATION-SHIP.

MIRIA MUST HAVE TOLD YOU EVERY-THING ABOUT ME...

HEH HEH HEH.

I SEE...

THE TRUTH IS...

...HE'S TRYING TO GET US FOUR PARTIALLY AWAKENED WARRIORS KILLED.

IF THEIR RESEARCH ON YOU WERE TO PRODUCE AWAKENED ONES THAT COULD BE CONTROLLED, THAT WOULD BE MOST TROUBLESOME FOR US.

HALF-AWAKENED ONES ARE A PHENOMENON WE'D RATHER NOT HAVE TO DEAL WITH.

FORTUNATELY, I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO HEARD IT. I TOLD HER I'D INFORM THE ORGANIZATION, BUT ACTUALLY I KEPT IT TO MYSELF.

THE FIRST INFORMATION ABOUT A HALF-AWAKENED ONE WAS OPHELIA'S REPORT ABOUT MIRIA.

I NEVER DREAMED THAT ALL FOUR OF YOU WOULD SURVIVE.

I HAD HOPED THAT EVERYTHING WOULD BE RESOLVED BY SENDING YOU ALL TO THE NORTH.

ARE YOU GOING TO REPORT US TO THE ORGANIZATION AND HAVE THEM WIPE US OUT FOR GOOD?

SO WHAT NOW?

BUT SHE'S A CLEVER GIRL.

SHE DIDN'T DO WHAT I THOUGHT SHE WOULD.

AFTER THAT, I TOLD MIRIA ABOUT THE WAR ON THE MAINLAND, HOPING THAT SHE'D REBEL AGAINST THE ORGANI-ZATION.

READ THIS WAY

I HOPE YOU CARRY ON. BY ALL MEANS, TAKE DOWN THE ORGANI-ZATION.

WHAT FOR? YOU'VE LEFT THE ORGANIZATION AND ARE NOW THEIR ENEMIES. FROM MY PERSPECTIVE, THAT'S A PERFECT SITUATION.

YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BECOME TEST SUBJECTS FOR HUMAN EXPERI-MENTATION, WOULD YOU?

I'D PREFER IT IF THEY NEVER FIND OUT THAT YOU'RE HALF AWAKENED.

I WANT THE ORGANI-ZATION TO REACH A STATE WHERE IT DESTROYS ITSELF.

IT WOULD BE POINT-LESS FOR ME TO DO THAT.

B-BUT... IF YOU'RE A SPY SENT BY THE SIDE OPPOSING THE ORGANI-ZATION...

...AREN'T THERE ANY NUMBER OF MORE DIRECT WAYS FOR YOU TO DESTROY IT?

WHAT?

IT WOULD BE MUCH HARDER FOR MY SIDE TO INSERT A SPY THE NEXT TIME AROUND.

IF WE DESTROY THEIR FACILITIES, THEY'LL JUST BUILD NEW ONES IN LOCATIONS THAT ARE BETTER HIDDEN.

IF I CAN WORK WITHOUT BEING DETECTED AND UNDERMINE THEM FROM THE INSIDE, THAT WOULD BE IDEAL.

IT'S BETTER FOR ME TO STAY UNDER COVER AND SEE HOW THINGS DEVELOP.

...THEN THEY'D THINK TWICE ABOUT CONTINU-ING ANY KIND OF RESEARCH AT ALL.

HOW-EVER, IF THE RESEARCH FACILITIES WERE DESTROYED AS A RESULT OF INTERNAL CHAOS...

READ THIS WAY

IF RIFUL COULD AWAKEN RAFAELA, THAT WOULD ONLY THROW THE ORGANIZATION INTO GREATER CHAOS. ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU WANT?

STILL, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'D TELL US ABOUT THE SEARCH FOR THE MISSING WARRIOR.

EH?

HE'S HOPING WE'LL BE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO GET WRAPPED UP IN THIS MESS.

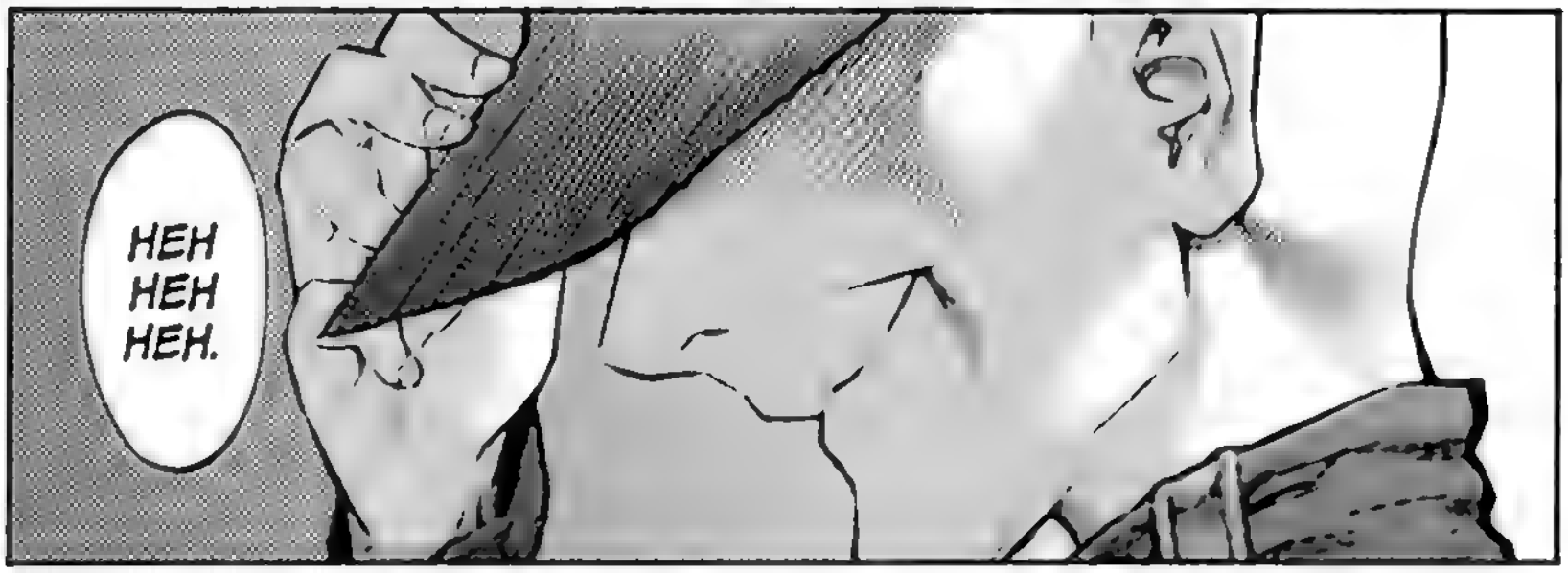
REGARDLESS OF WHAT HE SAYS, HE'S HOPING WE HALF-AWAKENED ONES ARE KILLED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

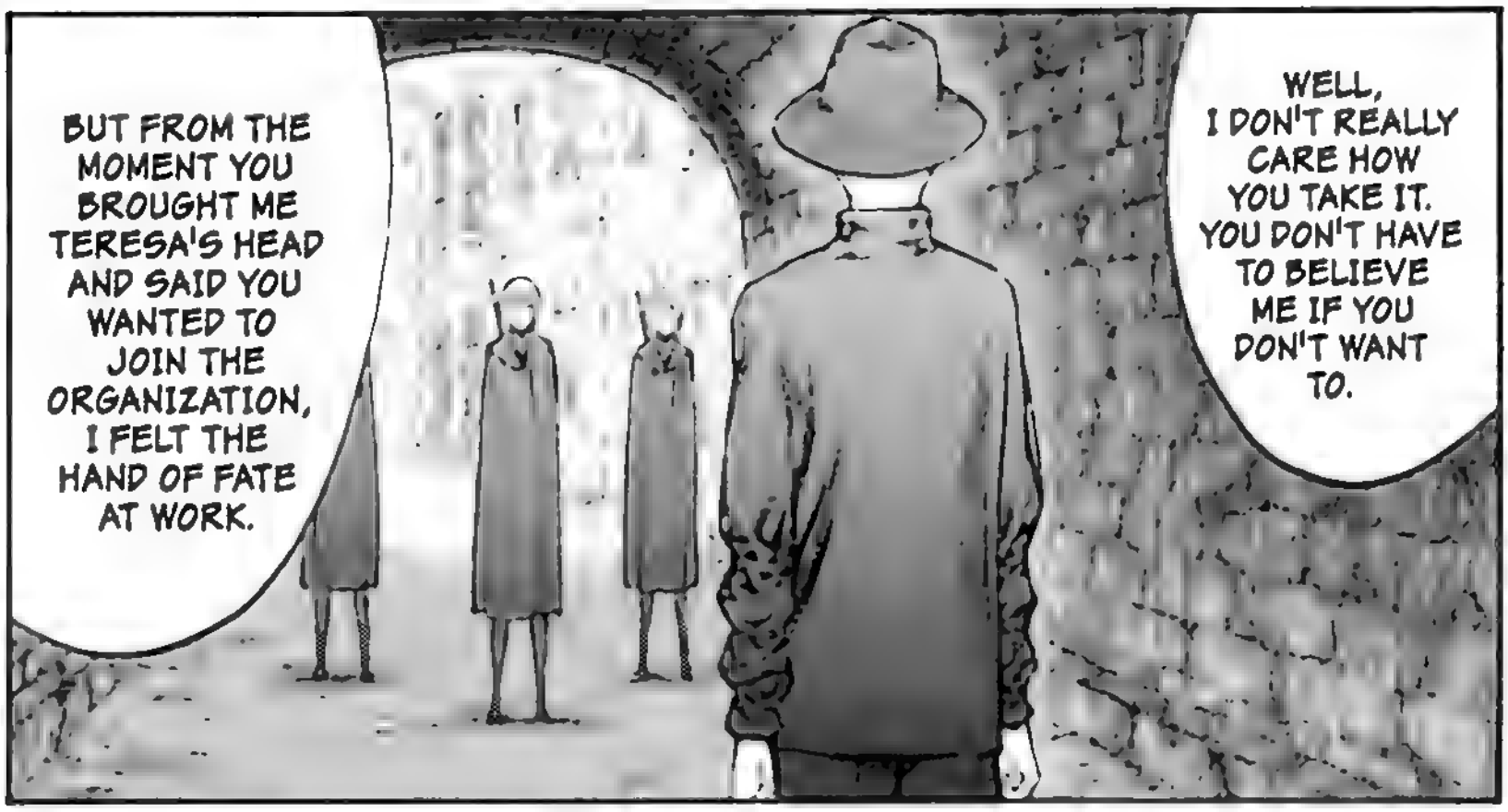
HE KNOWS WE CAN'T POSSIBLY DEFEAT RIFUL.

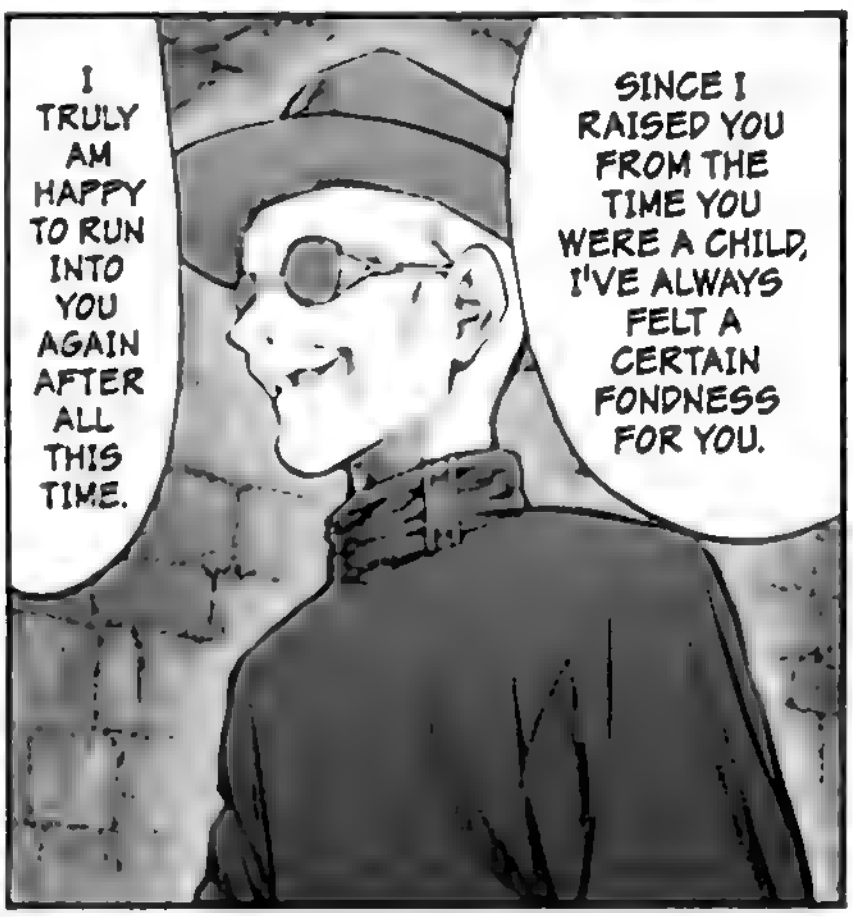
クレイモア

Claymore

Scene 85: The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 3




BUT FROM THE MOMENT YOU BROUGHT ME TERESA'S HEAD AND SAID YOU WANTED TO JOIN THE ORGANIZATION, I FELT THE HAND OF FATE AT WORK.
WELL, I DON'T REALLY CARE HOW YOU TAKE IT. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE ME IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.


I TRULY AM HAPPY TO RUN INTO YOU AGAIN AFTER ALL THIS TIME.
SINCE I RAISED YOU FROM THE TIME YOU WERE A CHILD, I'VE ALWAYS FELT A CERTAIN FONDNESS FOR YOU.

SSHF

WELL THEN ...

YOU CAN SAVE RENÉE AND RAFAELA, OR YOU CAN JUST KEEP RUNNING. IT'S UP TO YOU.

FROM THIS POINT ON, YOU'RE FREE TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.

...I THINK THE TWO OF YOU MIGHT GET ALONG...

SUR-PRISINGLY WELL.

REGARD-LESS OF WHETHER YOU'RE FRIENDS OR ENEMIES

!

I REALLY LIKED HER.

A LONG TIME AGO, I USED TO TAKE CARE OF RAFAELA TOO.

SCENE 85:

THE LAMENTATION OF THE EARTH, PART 3

TCH ...

WE'RE NOT GONNA DO ANY-THING!

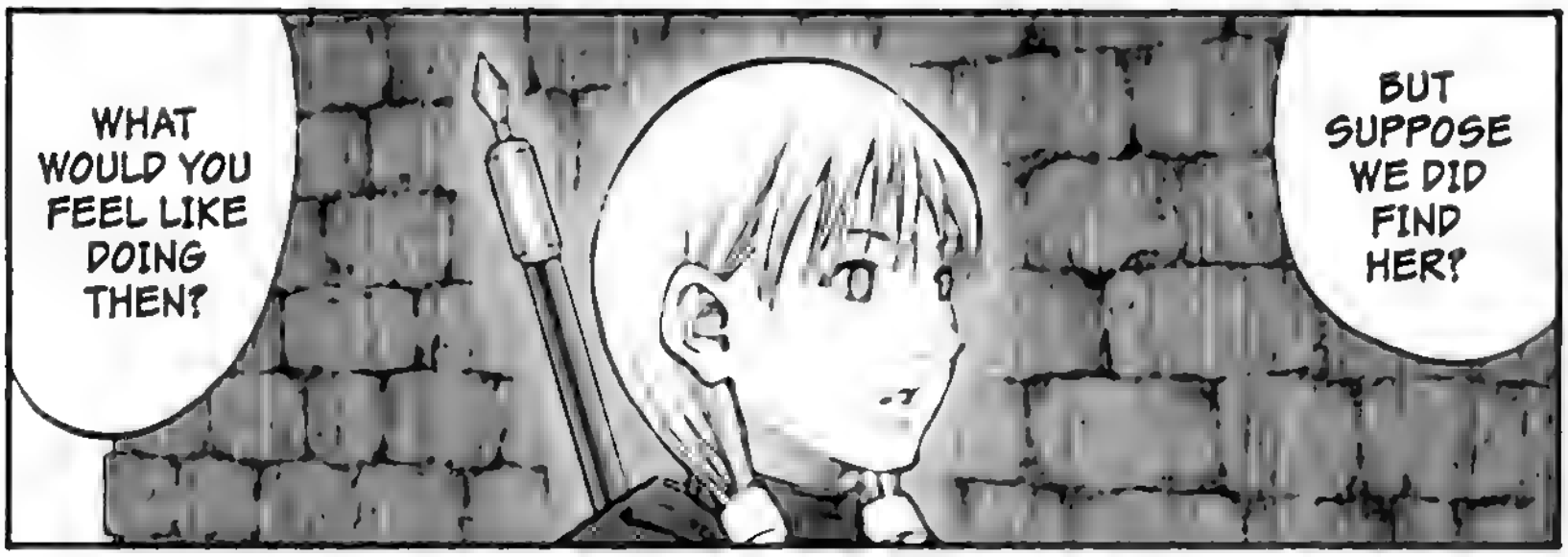
IT'D BE *SUICIDE* TO EVEN GO NEAR A CREATURE OF THE ABYSS.

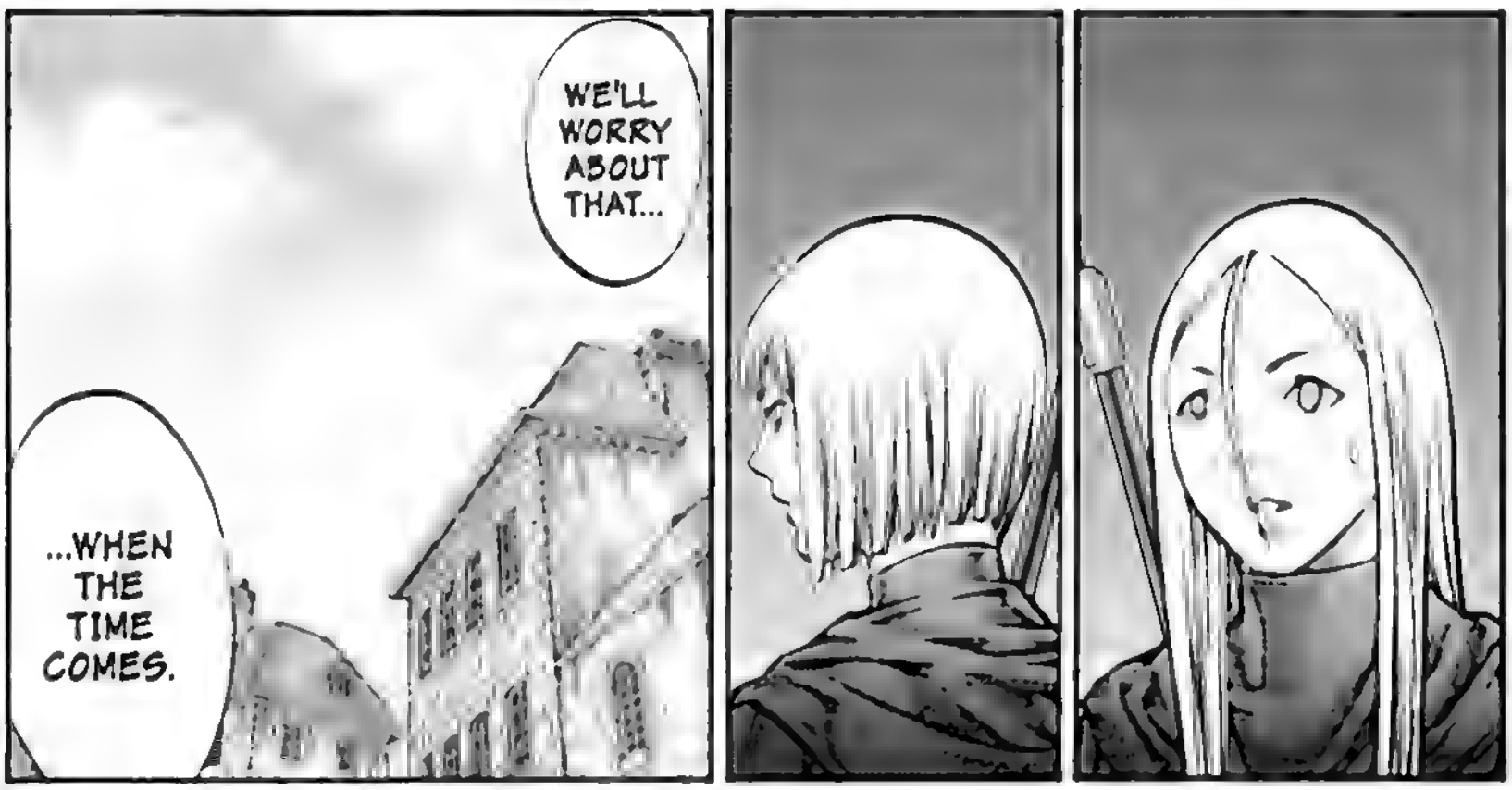
...

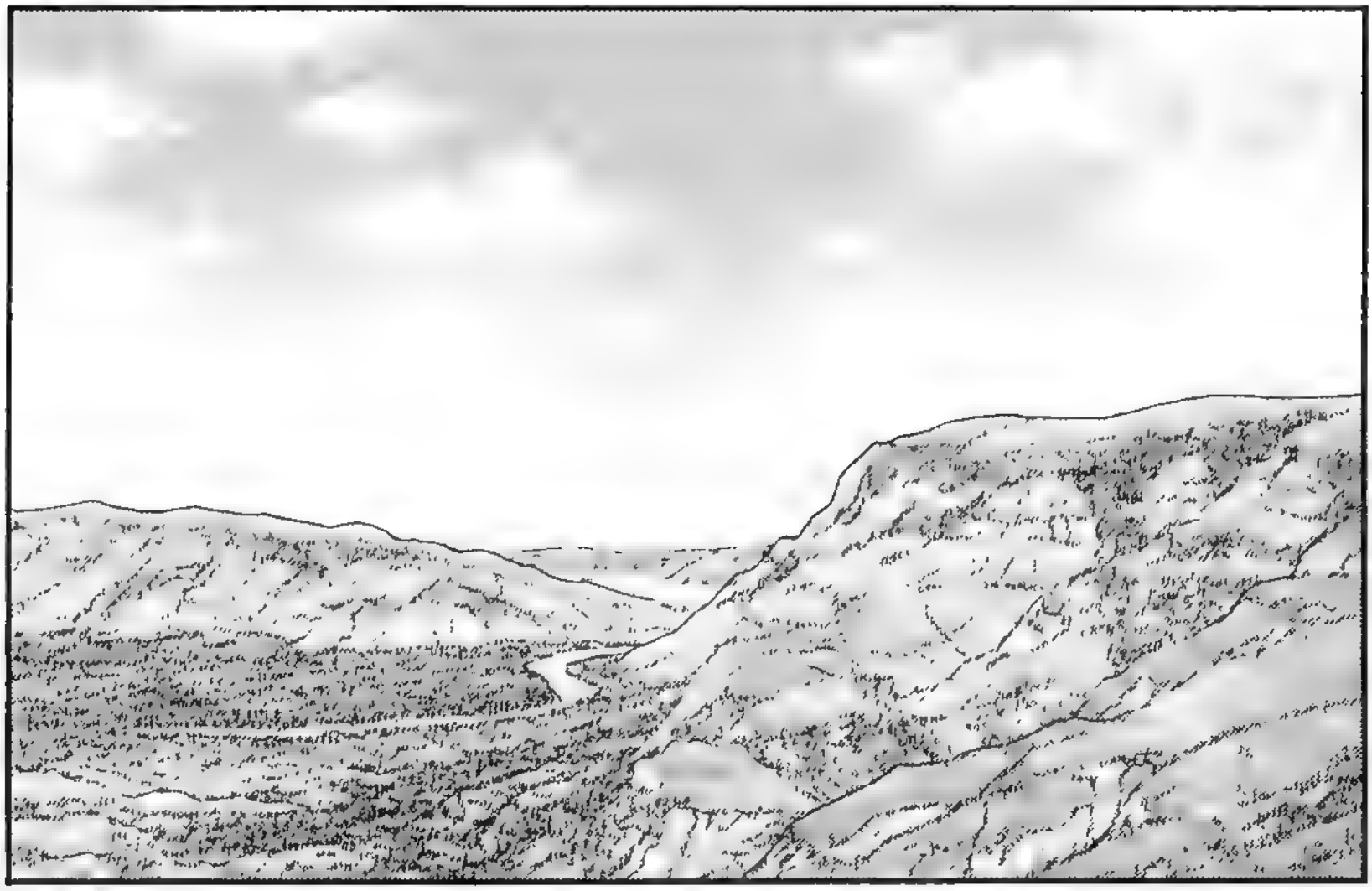
SHOULD WE HELP THOSE TWO, OR—

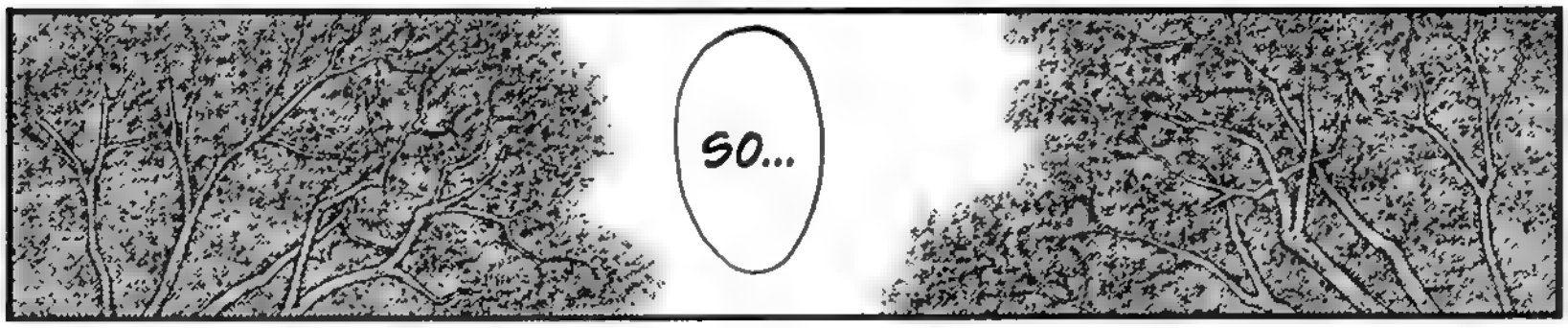
WHAT DO YOU THINK, CLARE?

WHICHEVER ROAD WE TAKE, I DOUBT WE COULD FIND RIFUL'S TRAIL IN A REGION AS VAST AS THIS.
FOR NOW, ANYWAY, LET'S CONTINUE WITH OUR PREVIOUS PLAN AND KEEP HEADING WEST.


WHAT WOULD YOU FEEL LIKE DOING THEN?
BUT SUPPOSE WE DID FIND HER?


WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT...
...WHEN THE TIME COMES.




SO...

WELL, THEY MADE SEVERAL ERRORS.
BUT THEIR BIGGEST ONE WAS TO LET THEMSELVES BE LURED INTO THE WATER.
BECAUSE OF THAT, THEY LOST THEIR ONLY ADVANTAGE: SPEED.

...DENEVE?
WHERE DO YOU THINK THEY SLIPPED UP...

DO

DO

GRAAH

READ THIS WAY

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
KH ...
THE BETTER WARRIORS MUST BE OFF TAKING CARE OF OTHER PROBLEMS.
I'M GUESSING THEY'RE RANKED IN THE 30-TO-40 RANGE.
RIGHT NOW, MANPOWER IS THE ORGANI-ZATION'S BIGGEST ISSUE, AND—
IT WASN'T A GOOD TEAM TO START WITH, ANYWAY.
APART FROM THE SINGLE-DIGIT LEADER, THEY ALL LACK EXPERIENCE.
BASICALLY, THEY'RE NOT AT A LEVEL YET WHERE THEY SHOULD BE HUNTING AWAKENED ONES.
?
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
HEH HEH HEH.
HEH ...

!

...AND ENDED UP GETTING SAVED BY A CERTAIN LOW-RANKED KID. THAT'S WHAT.

A LONG TIME AGO YOU SAID SOME-THING REALLY SIMILAR ...

HEY, IT'S NOT EXACTLY A HAPPY MEMORY FOR ME EITHER.

AH, SORRY, SORRY!

IT'S EMBAR-RASSING.

DON'T REMIND ME ABOUT THAT.

NO WAY TO TELL.

IF SHE TOOK ON MIRIA NOW, WHO WOULD WIN?

SPEAKING OF, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT CLARE?

READ THIS WAY

...MIRIA IS SUPERIOR IN EVERY WAY.

EVEN IF YOU FACTOR IN STRENGTH OF SPIRIT, OVERALL SHE'S MUCH STRONGER THAN CLARE.

...AND ABOVE ALL, SKILL ...

POWER ... STAMINA ...

IN TERMS OF SPEED ...

THAT UNCERTAINTY IS BOTH HER STRENGTH AND HER WEAKNESS.

BUT CLARE HAS THIS LIMITLESS, EXPLOSIVE POWER.

IF YOU THINK OF IT THAT WAY, OF COURSE SHE ACTS LIKE A REBELLIOUS CHILD.

IN TERMS OF ACTUAL YEARS SHE'S THE YOUNGEST OF US SEVEN.

SHE LOOKS SO CALM ON THE OUTSIDE, BUT...

mm-hm

YEAH, SHE'S SORT OF LIKE A HOT-HEADED KID.

SHE'S SURPRISINGLY CHILDISH IN A LOT OF WAYS.

!

OH!

SPLASH

ZU

BA

GROH GROH

GR...

HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF

SO THEY'RE FINALLY DOWN TO ONE.

THE OTHER THREE AREN'T DEAD YET, BUT...

IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD.

SHE DID WELL TO FIGHT THIS LONG.

IT SEEMS SHE'S THE ONLY MEMBER OF THIS UNIT WHO'S EVER FOUGHT AN AWAKENED ONE.

YOU HEARD WHAT MIRIA SAID.

"DON'T GET INTO NEED-LESS FIGHTS."

AND IT'LL CAUSE TROUBLE IF WE REVEAL OURSELVES TO THE CURRENT WARRIORS.

HEY, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

SHOULD WE GO HELP THEM?

...I'M WILLING TO BACK YOU UP. NOT THAT I'M EN-COURAGING YOU TO DO IT.

BUT, DESPITE ALL THAT, IF YOU TELL ME THAT YOU JUST CAN'T STAY OUT OF IT...

!

AND BESIDES, I HATE GETTING WET.

SHAK

IT'S NOT LIKE THEY'RE OUR COMRADES OR ANY-THING.

NAH, IT'D BE BETTER NOT TO.

GA SHAK

SAFETY FIRST, RIGHT?

LET'S GET BACK ON THE ROAD.

WHAM

UGH!

UH...

KANG

KANG

KANG

HM?

AND SHE'S STRONG, SO IT'D BE BETTER FOR US IF SHE'S TAKEN OUT NOW.

FWAP

WE'LL PROBABLY END UP HAVING TO FIGHT HER SOONER OR LATER ANYWAY.

KEH HEH HEH.

YOUR BLOOD IS UP...

...HELEN.

THOK

!!

AGH!

MAYBE CLARE'S NOT THE ONLY REBEL AROUND HERE.

WELL...

FWASH!

ON THE ROAD AGAIN ...

OO-KAY.

shf shf

ZA

I'M GONNA TAKE DOWN THIS AWAKENED ONE ALL BY MY HOT-HEADED LITTLE SELF!

TO HELL WITH YOUR CAUTION AND MIRIA'S ORDERS!

A

N

TURN, TURN, TURN AND...

!!

KA

PLE

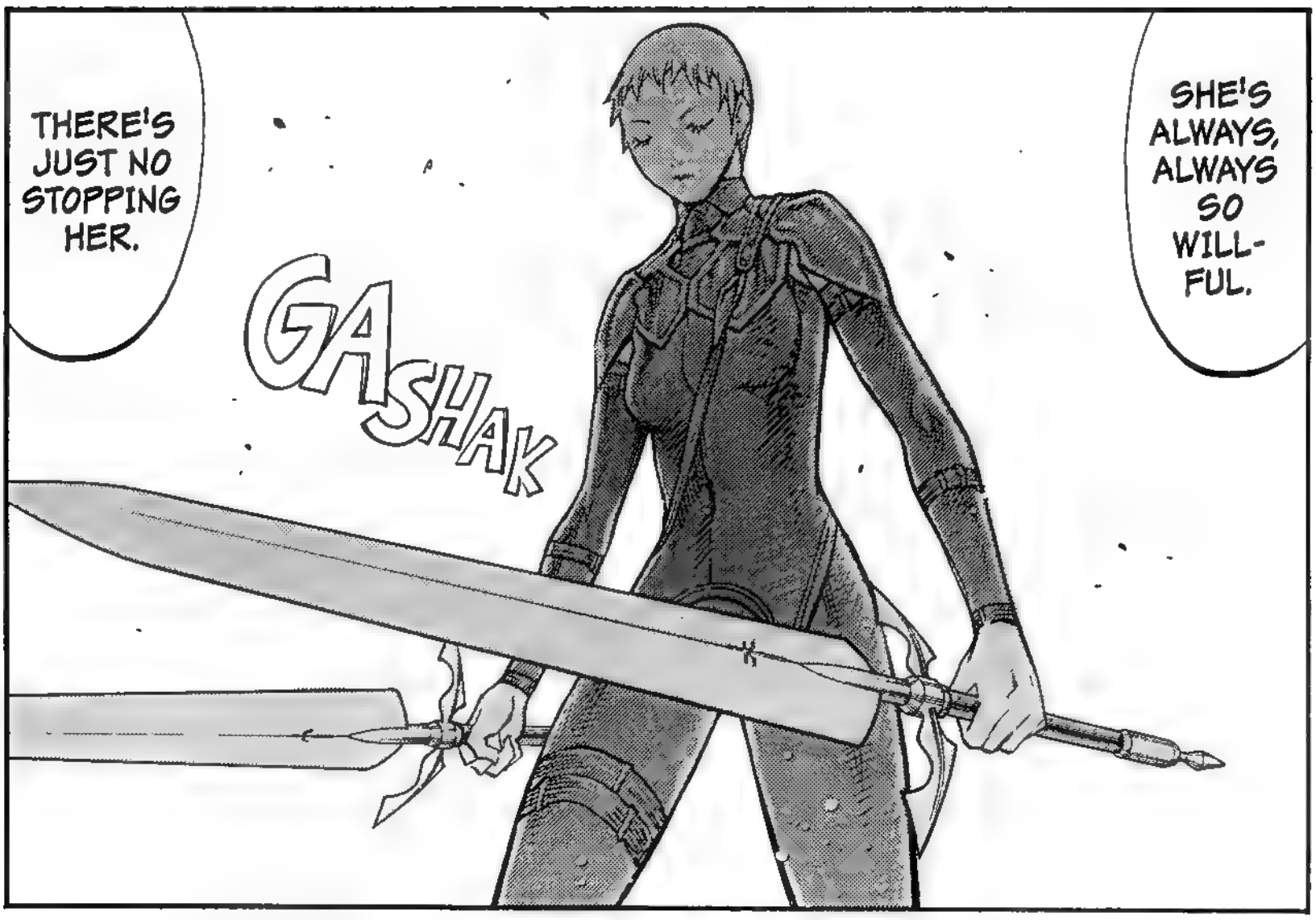
BAM!!

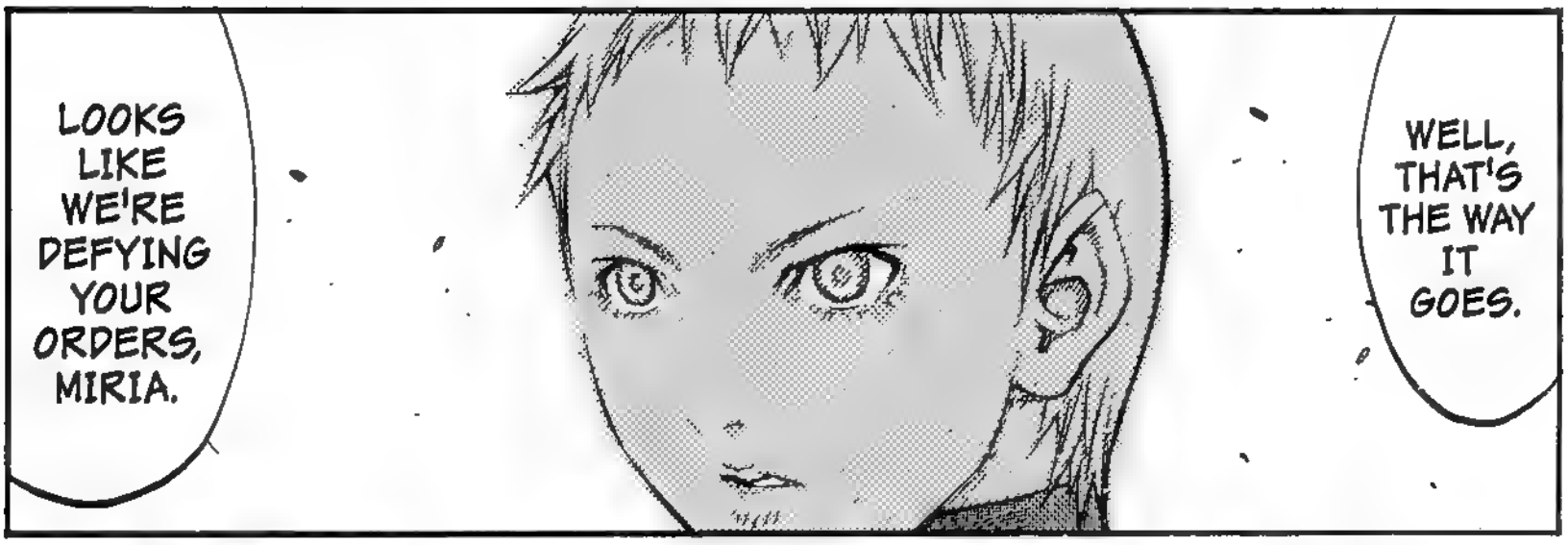
GROH

?!!

HONESTLY...

SHAK


THERE'S JUST NO STOPPING HER.
GASHAK
SHE'S ALWAYS, ALWAYS SO WILL-FUL.


LOOKS LIKE WE'RE DEFYING YOUR ORDERS, MIRIA.
WELL, THAT'S THE WAY IT GOES.

DO DOM
B DOM
HAH!
HAH
HYAH

M
M

ZA

AK

!

EAT THIS!

ZA

ASH

OH.

KA

WHOK

SWISH

PLEASE

BAM

SSSH

WSSSH

WHAT ...

ARE YOU—

WH...

BOK

DID WE GO TOO EASY ON HER?

NO, SHE'S JUST REALLY STRONG.

BA DA

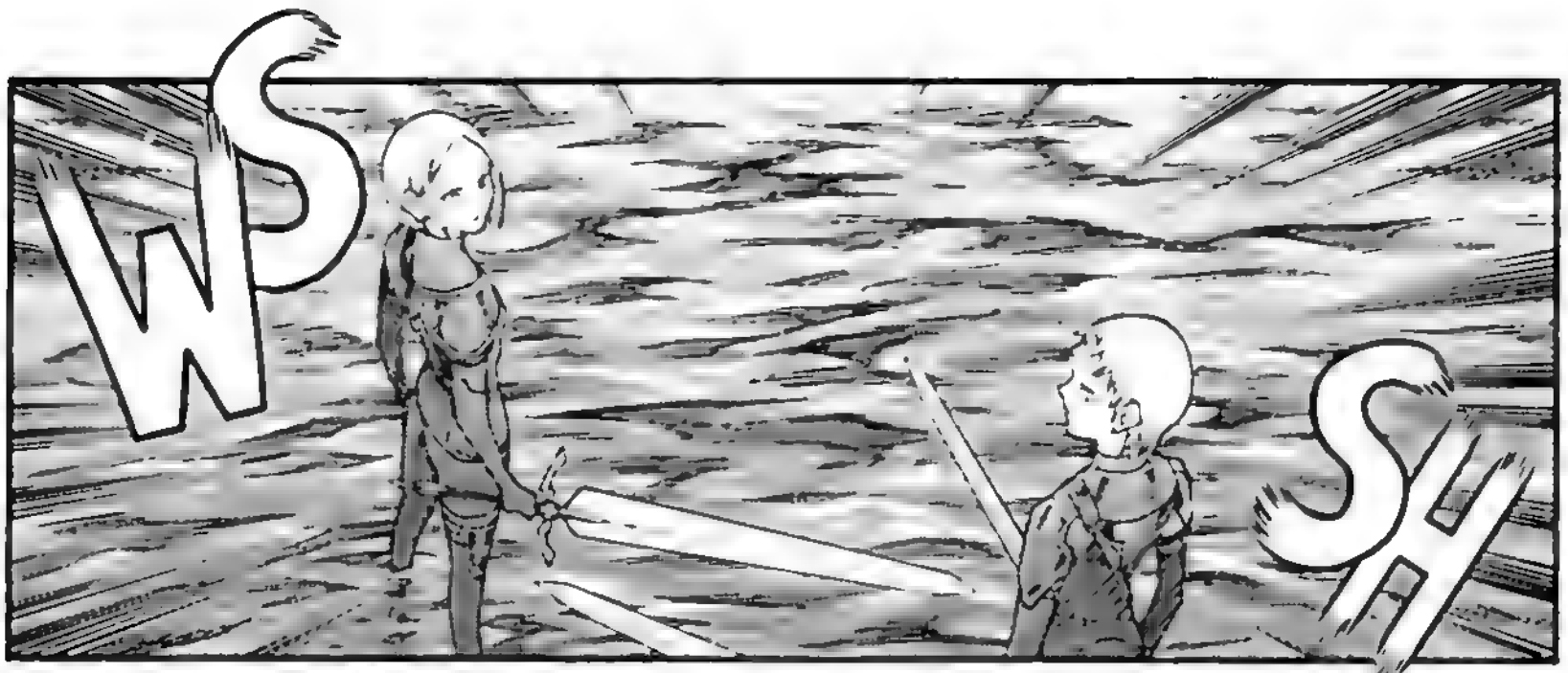
WHAT WAS THAT FOR?!

SO YOU ARE ENEMIES ...

SHA

!

!!


WS
SH

DO
BO

DO
M

GU
A

BA-BAM

UH-OH.

IT'S AFTER ME NOW.

WHAT'RE YOU...

OH, SHI-

ZM

M

GRAB

HELEN!

BA SHAAA

WHY DID YOU—

YOU...

Pa

Sh

!

BUT I'M GUESSING YOU'RE NOT MY ENEMIES.

AM I RIGHT?

FOR SOME REASON YOU DON'T WANT YOUR IDENTITIES KNOWN.

YOU HIT ME WITH YOUR FIST, NOT YOUR SWORD.

THAT MEANS YOU WEREN'T TRYING TO KILL ME. YOU WERE JUST TRYING TO KNOCK ME OUT.

READ THIS WAY

NUMBER 8.

MY NAME IS DIE-TRICH.

WHAT NUMBER ARE YOU?

HEH HEH.

THAT'S WHY REGULAR WARRIORS AREN'T SUPPOSED TO SEE OUR FACES.

THEY DON'T ACKNOWLEDGE OUR EXISTENCE PUBLICLY. WE'RE ONLY SENT OUT ON THE MOST DANGEROUS JOBS.

WE'RE MEMBERS OF A COVERT UNIT OF THE ORGANI-ZATION.

NOT TOO BIG ON SOCIAL GRACES, HUH?

...

WHOA.

I OWE YOU.

THANKS.

HOW'S THAT?

WE'LL TAKE ONE EACH.

BUT NOW'S NOT THE TIME FOR THAT.

I WANT TO GET THE UNCONSCIOUS WARRIORS AWAY FROM HERE. CAN YOU LEND ME A HAND?

I UNDER-STAND. I WON'T SAY ANY-THING.

BA

M

DA

SH

Z

SSH

GRAB

BOOM DOM DOM

GWOAA

DO GA DO GA DO GA

UP WE GO.

OKAY.

SHE'LL BE SAFE HERE.

NOW THEN ...

ZA

GWOA

TO

MP

UMPH.

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

HYUU

HYUU

HYUU

KA

THOK

!!!

GIYAA

SHAA

BA

MI

GIYAA

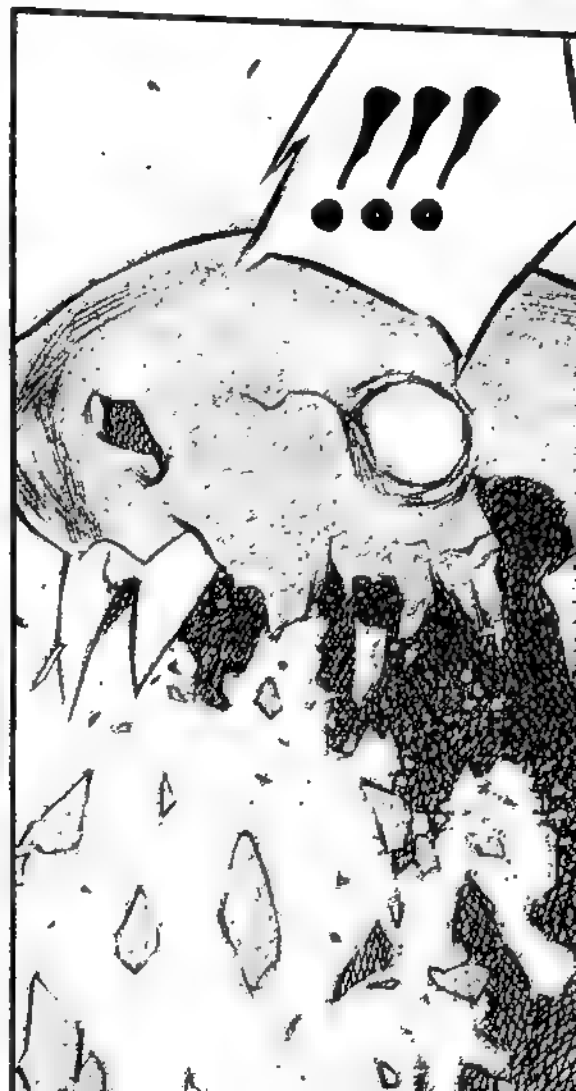
AK

AH

KA
BOOM

GRAH

TCH.
DID I MISS THE HEAD?


!!!

ZZ
SH

HYUU

...SHE CAN REACH SUCH A HEIGHT?
WITH JUST ONE STEP OFF THE CREA-TURE'S BODY ...

IT'S ALL YOURS.
FINISH IT.

AH?

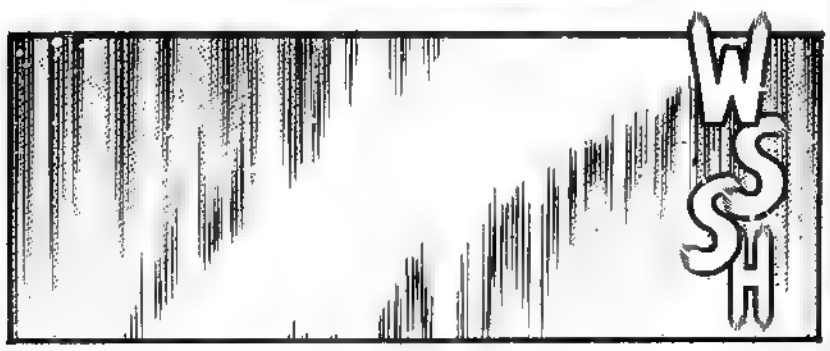
?!!

THO
K
THOUGH NOW YOU ARE STAINED WITH BLOOD AND DARKNESS, YOU WERE ONCE A FELLOW WARRIOR.
WITH THIS SINGLE BLOW I ATONE FOR AND HONOR A FORMER COMRADE.

クレイモア
Claymore

SCENE 86: THE LAMENTATION OF THE EARTH, PART 4

SO SHE DOES HAVE EXPER-IENCE FIGHTING AWAKENED ONES...
SHE COM-PENSATED FOR HER SMALL SIZE AND WEIGHT BY STRIKING FROM A GREAT HEIGHT SO SHE COULD CLEAVE IT IN TWO.



Scene 86: The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 4

READ THIS WAY

NO MAJOR INJURIES.

THEY'RE FINE.

THEY'RE UNCON-SCIOUS, BUT THEY'LL COME AROUND SOON.

THEY GONNA PULL THROUGH?

HOW ARE THOSE THREE?

SHFF

OUR LIVES WERE ALL SPARED BECAUSE OF YOU.

YOU'VE BEEN OF GREAT HELP.

YOU HAVE MY THANKS.

GLAD TO HEAR IT.

SORRY, BUT I CAN'T DO THAT.

HUH?

INSTEAD, HOW 'BOUT DOING US A FAVOR?

WE'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU DIDN'T MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT THIS TO THE ORGANI-ZATION.

HEY, NO NEED FOR THANKS.

IF THEY ASK ME, I HAVE TO ANSWER HONESTLY.

I SWORE AN OATH TO THE ORGANIZATION THAT I WOULD NEVER LIE TO THEM.

IF YOU DON'T WANT THE ORGANIZATION TO KNOW ABOUT YOU, YOU HAD BETTER KILL ME NOW.

FOR-TUNATELY, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO SAW YOUR FACES.

READ THIS WAY

!

I DON'T KNOW ANY OTHER WAY.

IT'S A MATTER OF PRINCI-PLE.

... RATHER THAN TELL A LIE?

YOU'D CHOOSE DEATH...

HMM.

GA SHAK

LOOK, IF WE KILL YOU NOW, WE'D BE TOTALLY WASTING ALL THE WORK WE JUST DID TO SAVE YOU.

GEH... THIS GIRL'S A REAL PAIN IN THE ASS.

YOU DIDN'T TURN YOUR SWORD AGAINST US AFTER DEFEATING THE AWAKENED ONE. THAT ALONE IS ENOUGH.

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

SHAK

!

YEAH.

UH ...

SHF

LET'S GO, HELEN.

READ THIS WAY

BA BAM

BA BAM BAM

BUT SHE'S GOT INCRED-IBLE STAMINA.

SHE HAS ONLY ABOUT HALF THE PURE SPEED THAT WE DO.

HOW COME WE CAN'T SHAKE HER OFF?

CRAP.

BA M

READ THIS WAY

SHAK

OKAY.

WHAT'S YOUR BEEF... PRINCESS?

YOU FINALLY CAME TO YOUR SENSES AND DECIDED TO KILL US?

SINCE THEN ...

...I DID A LITTLE THINK-ING.

IF I HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED BY YOU BACK THERE I WOULDN'T HAVE TO REPORT TO THE ORGANI-ZATION.

THAT WAY, I WON'T HAVE BROKEN MY OATH AND EVERY-THING WILL BE SORTED.

WHAT COULD WE POSSIBLY GET OUT OF KID-NAPPING YOU?

WHAT KINDA BUNK IS THAT?!

HUH?

IF I GET IN YOUR WAY, YOU CAN CUT ME DOWN. I DON'T CARE.

IN THAT CASE, I'LL JUST FOLLOW YOU.

IF THAT'S HOW YOU'D PREFER TO THINK OF IT, FINE.

!

YOU ... HOW DID YOU—

THE SOUTH HAS CHANGED GREATLY THESE PAST SEVEN YEARS.

IF YOU'VE BEEN HIDDEN AWAY IN THE NORTH FOR SO LONG, YOU'LL NEED A GUIDE, WON'T YOU?

IT WAS JUST A GUESS.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME THE TRUTH, AND I WON'T ASK FOR IT.

READ THIS WAY

EXACTLY WHAT KIND OF CHANGES ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

YOU SAY THINGS HAVE CHANGED GREATLY IN SEVEN YEARS.

WHA ...

SECOND, I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU NOT PROCEED ANY FURTHER SOUTH THAN HERE.

FIRST, HALF THE TOWNS IN THE SOUTHERN REGION HAVE BEEN WIPED OUT.

... FROM HERE?

WHAT EXISTS FURTHER SOUTH...

I STILL DO NOT KNOW THE SPECIFIC REASON FOR IT.

H-HALF THE TOWNS? WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED?!

BUT I SINCERELY HOPE YOU'LL CONSIDER MY WARNING.

I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO GIVE YOU PRECISE DETAILS.

I ONLY KNOW THE RESULTS.

...A DEMONIC EXIS-TENCE DWELLS.

IN THE LAND TO THE SOUTH ...

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

TMP

IF HALF OF ALL THE TOWNS ARE GONE, THAT MEANS WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF MINE OR YOURS ARE STILL THERE.

WELL, GUESS WE SHOULD GO AND SEE FOR OURSELVES.

TMP

HALF OF THEM? HALF!

TMP

...DESPITE MY WARNING?

YOU'RE GOING ...

...

!

IF WE'VE COME ALL THIS WAY WE MIGHT AS WELL FIND OUT WHAT IT IS.

AND THIS "DEMONIC EXIS-TENCE" OF YOURS.

RSTLE

WHAT DID YOU EXPECT? ONE WARNING AND WE'RE SUPPOSED TO TUCK OUR TAILS AND RUN AWAY?

THAT'S WHAT WE CAME FOR.

SPEAKING OF WHICH...

THERE'S A RIDICULOUS AMOUNT OF YOMA ENERGY RADIATING FROM THIS TOWN.

OR MAYBE EVEN MORE THAN THAT.

IT'S JUST LIKE WHAT WE FELT BEFORE FROM RIFUL, ISN'T IT?

...WHO DEFEATED LUCIELA. THE ABYSSAL ONE OF THE SOUTH, ISLEY.

IT MIGHT BE THE MAN ...

HE CERTAINLY COUNTS AS A DEMON.

YEAH, PROB-ABLY.

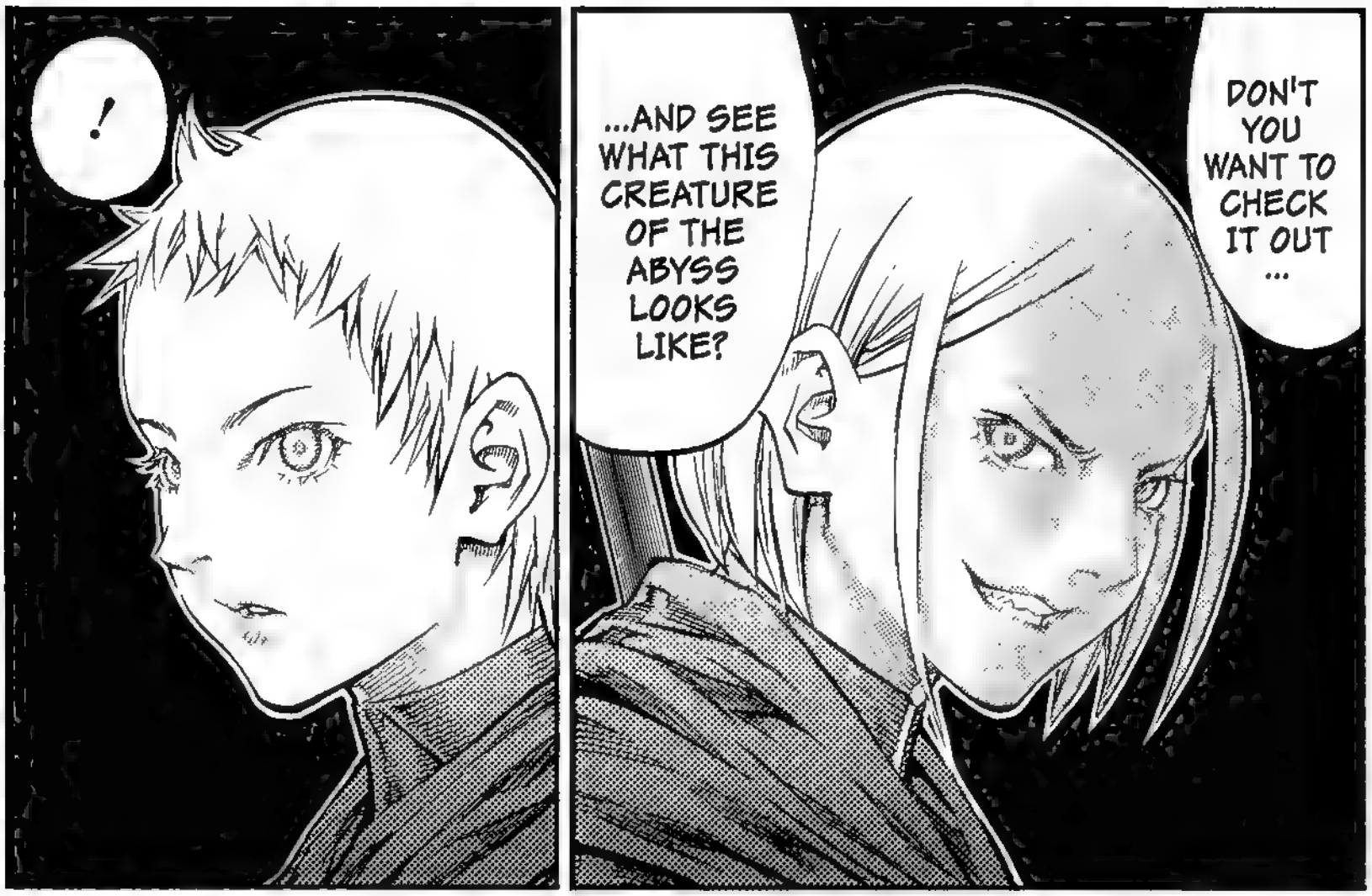
!

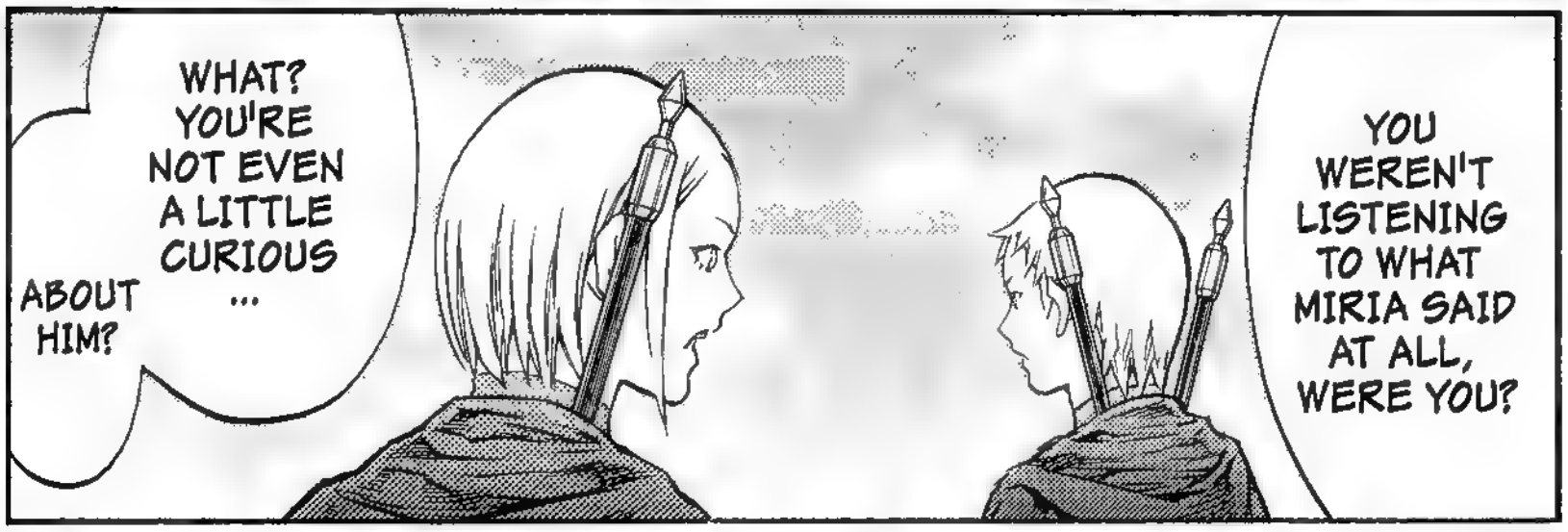
THERE MAY BE A CREATURE OF THE ABYSS DOWN THERE, BUT THE TOWN REMAINS INTACT.

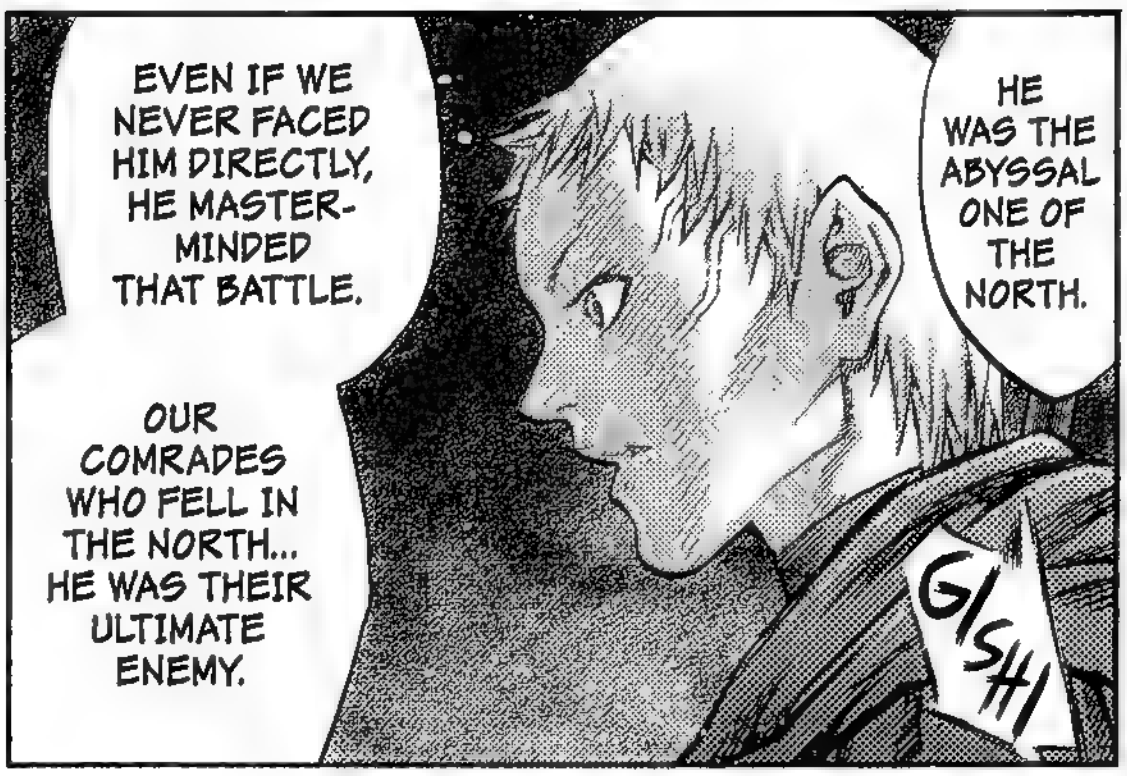
HE MUST BE IN HUMAN FORM, HIDING QUIETLY AMONG THE PEOPLE.

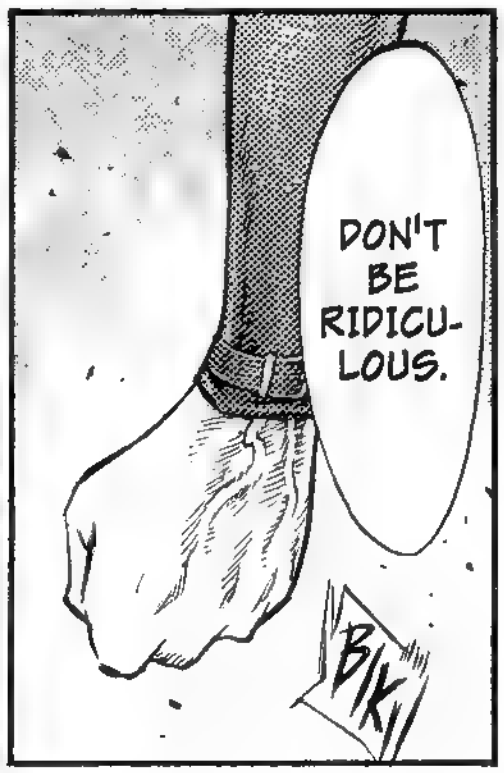
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO, DENEVE?


!
...AND SEE WHAT THIS CREATURE OF THE ABYSS LOOKS LIKE?
DON'T YOU WANT TO CHECK IT OUT ...


WHAT? YOU'RE NOT EVEN A LITTLE CURIOUS ... ABOUT HIM?
YOU WEREN'T LISTENING TO WHAT MIRIA SAID AT ALL, WERE YOU?


EVEN IF WE NEVER FACED HIM DIRECTLY, HE MASTER-MINDED THAT BATTLE.
OUR COMRADES WHO FELL IN THE NORTH... HE WAS THEIR ULTIMATE ENEMY.
HE WAS THE ABYSSAL ONE OF THE NORTH.
GISHI


DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS.
BIKI

READ THIS WAY

I NEVER SAID ANYTHING ABOUT FIGHTING HIM.

H-HEY... CALM DOWN.

WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU THINKING?

DON'T DO IT!

WHAT?

I JUST WANT A LITTLE LOOK, IS ALL.

WITH OUR AURAS SUP-PRESSED LIKE THIS, HE'LL NEVER EVEN NOTICE US.

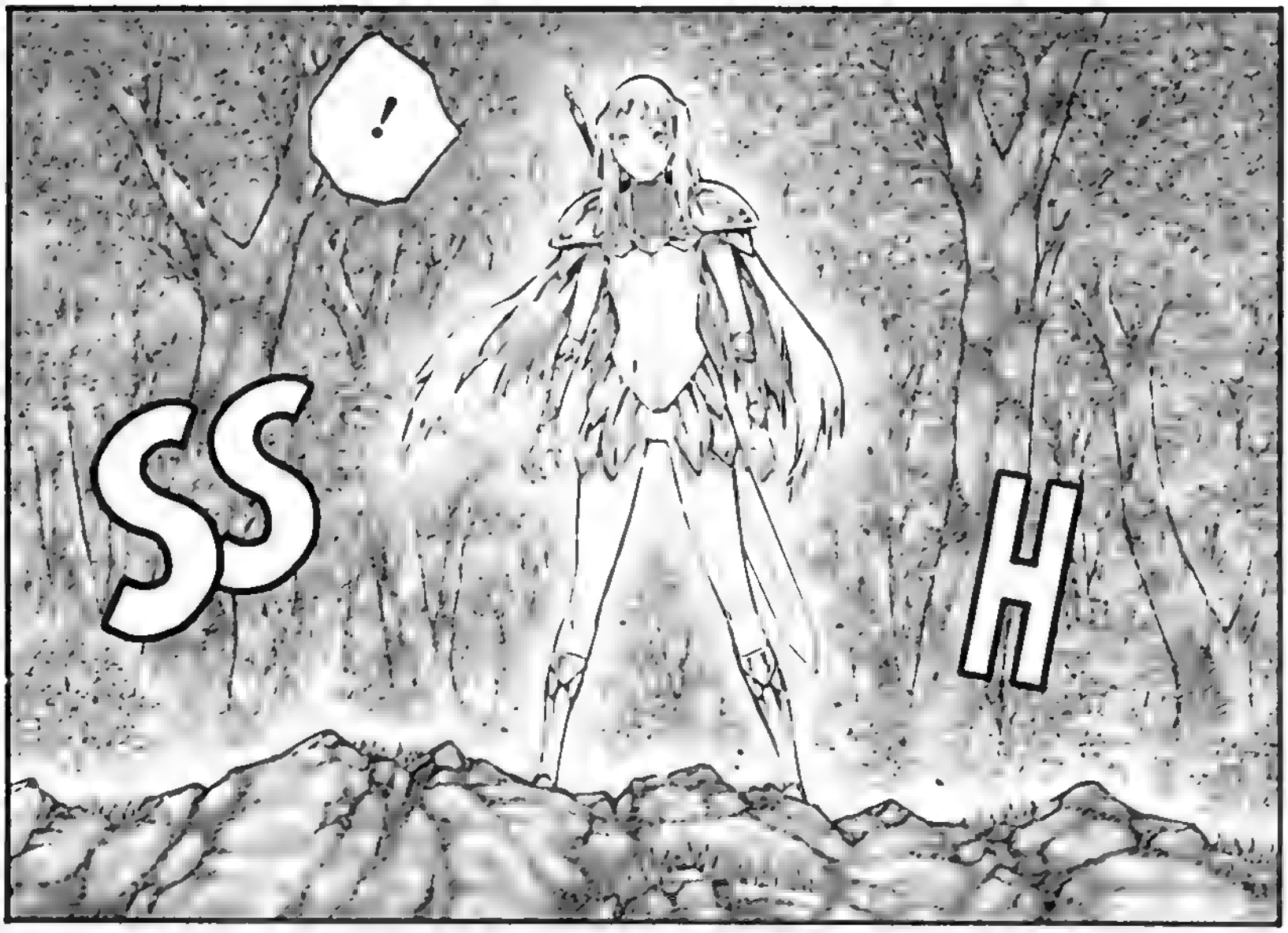
HEY, WAI—

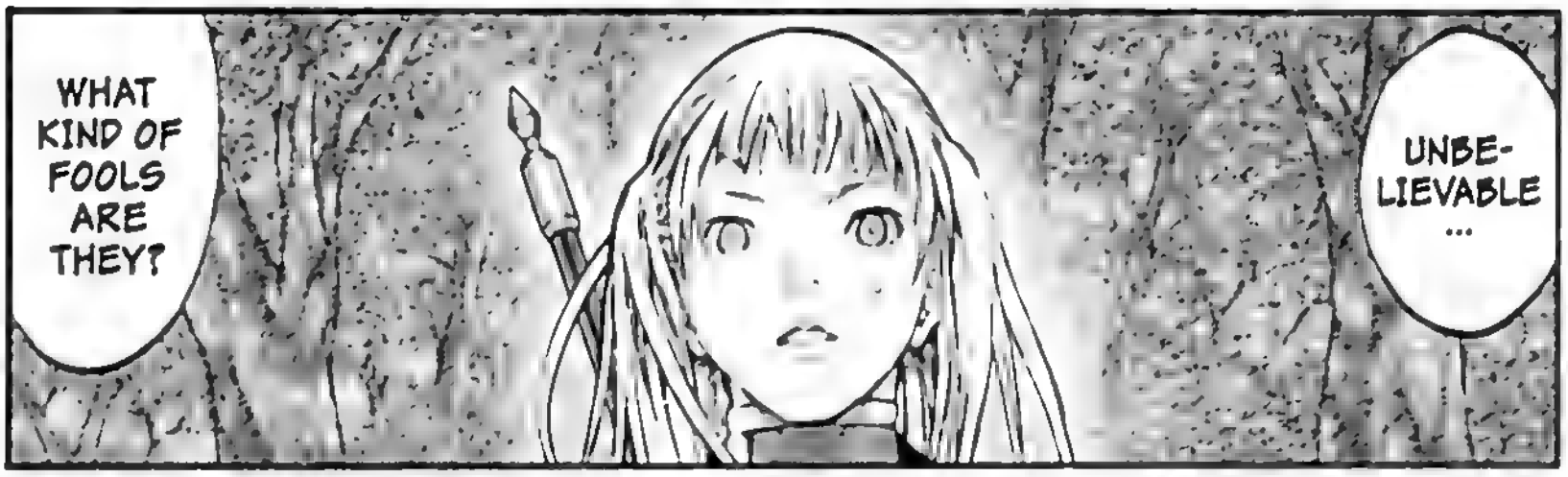
BAM

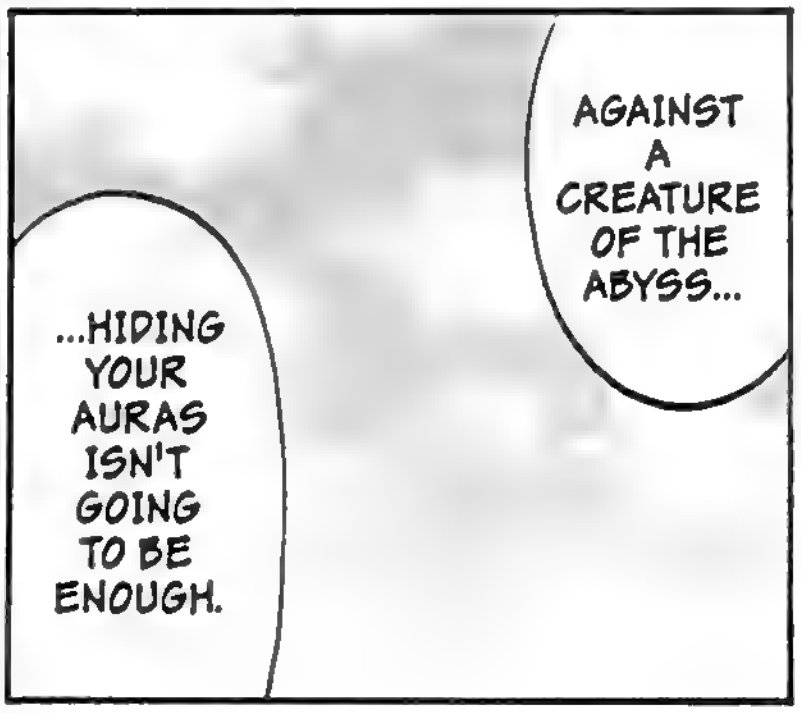
IF WE HAVE A WARRIOR BROADCASTING HER AURA WITH US, IT'LL BLOW OUR COVER.

DON'T WORRY. WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

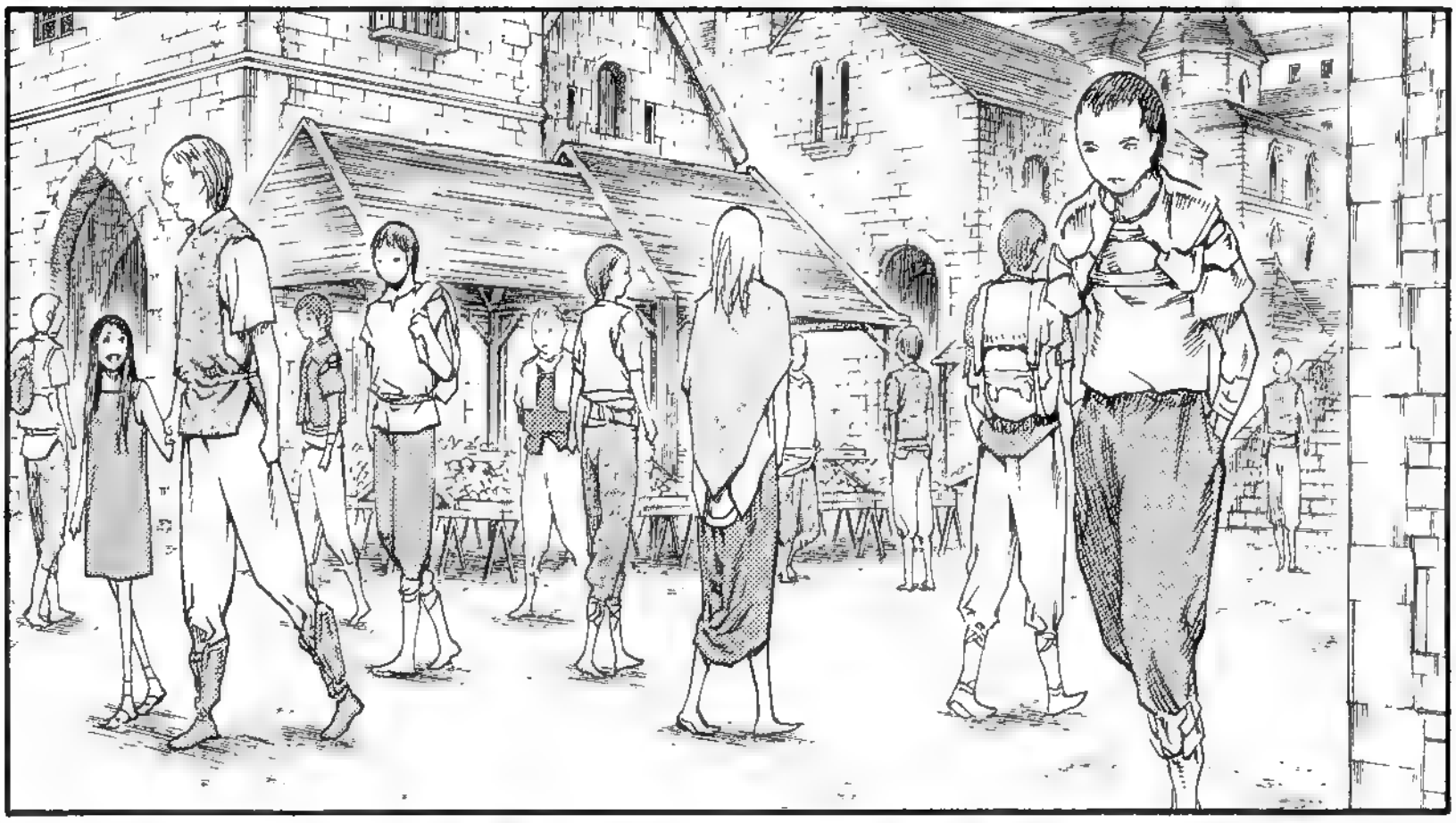
OH YEAH, YOU'D BETTER STAY HERE.

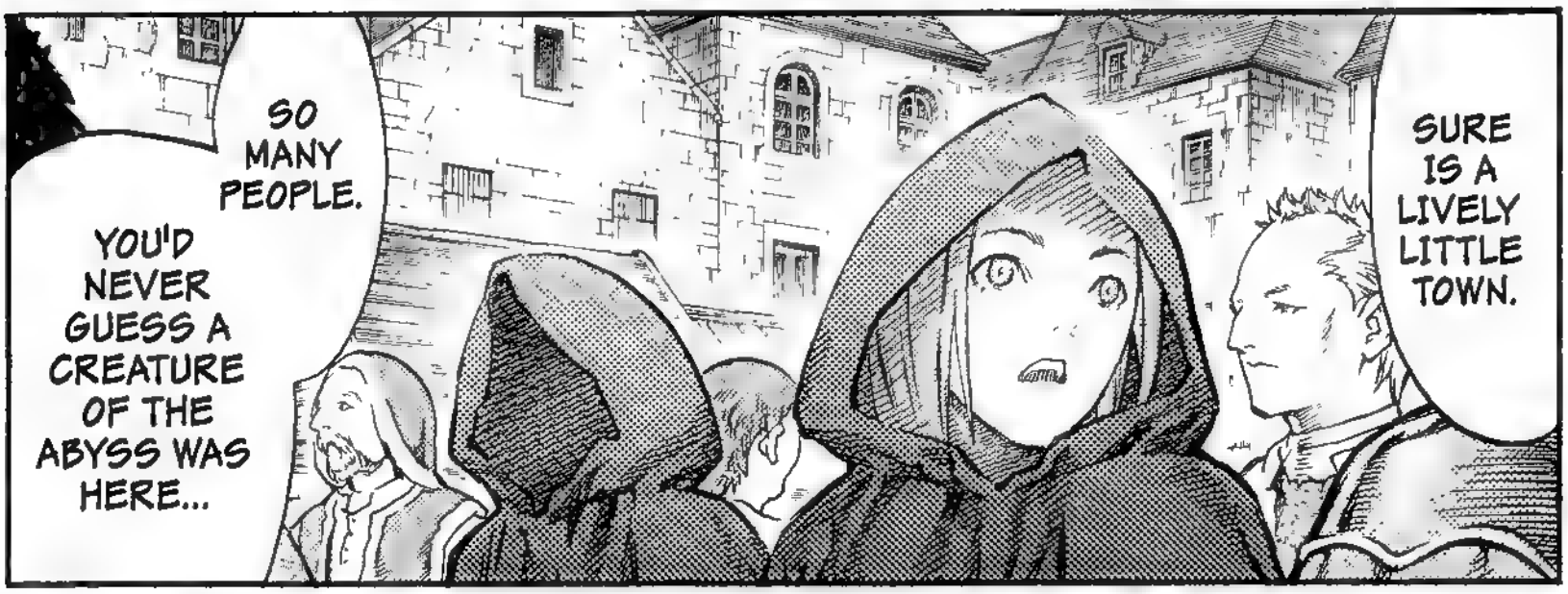

!
SS
H


WHAT KIND OF FOOLS ARE THEY?
UNBE-LIEVABLE ...


AGAINST A CREATURE OF THE ABYSS...
...HIDING YOUR AURAS ISN'T GOING TO BE ENOUGH.

READ THIS WAY





TMP
TMP
TMP
BIRI
BIRI
BIRI
BIRI
BIRI
BIRI
BIRI
BIRI
BIRI
WHOA, WHAT THE HELL'S THAT?!
THAT YOMA ENERGY IS HUGE!
HOW CAN THESE PEOPLE NOT NOTICE IT?
SOMEONE PARTICU-LARLY SENSITIVE MIGHT FEEL IT.
THEY WOULDN'T KNOW WHY, BUT THEY'D WANT TO AVOID THIS PLACE.
HUH. THAT'S GOTTA BE ROUGH.
AND THEY'D HAVE TO HIDE IT FROM EVERY-ONE ELSE TOO.

READ THIS WAY

THAT'S STRANGE ...

...

IN THE FIRST PLACE, WHY WOULD HE TAKE THE TROUBLE TO CONCEAL HIS TRUE FORM AND HIDE IN A TOWN?

I DON'T SEE ANY REASON FOR HIM TO DISGUISE HIMSELF AS A HUMAN.

I WAS SO DISTRACTED BY THE ABYSSAL ONE'S PRESENCE THAT I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT IT BEFORE, BUT...

THERE'S SOMETHING PECULIAR ABOUT THIS SITUATION.

HM? WHAT IS?

DM

SO WHY DID SHE TAKE SUCH PAINS TO CALL HIM SOME-THING ELSE?

IT'S NOT LIKE SHE HAD TO HIDE THE TERM "CREATURE OF THE ABYSS" FROM FELLOW WARRIORS.

WHAT THAT GIRL SAID BEFORE ...

AND ANOTHER THING...

TOMP TOMP TOMP TOMP

HE CAN'T HAVE NOTICED OUR AURAS YET.

WE'RE JUST LIKE ORDINARY PEOPLE.

DON'T STOP... KEEP WALK-ING.

TMP TMP TMP TMP

WHEN DID HE...?

DAMN ...

THUD

H-HANG ON A SEC...

MY... MY LEGS ...

LET'S GO, HELEN.

...ISLEY?!

IS THAT ...

WHUMP

!!

GH...

TMP

TMP

TMP

NO ...

DID HE SEE?

SHHF

TO MP

N-NO...

MY SISTER... JUST HAS A BAD LEG.

WHAT'S WRONG?

IS SHE HURT?

READ THIS WAY

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT US.

IT'S ALL RIGHT, SIR. I CAN TAKE CARE OF HER.

SHALL I LEND YOU A HAND?

...

TMP TMP TMP

I SEE. TAKE CARE, THEN.

HAH HAH HAH

WHEW...

YES ...

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR CONCERN.

shiver shiver shiver

WH

OK

AGH!

AAAAH!

DE-

DENEVE!

READ THIS WAY

AH ...

GH ...

HYU

YOU PATHETIC FOOLS ...

WARRIORS HIDING THEIR AURAS? HOW FUTILE.

NGH ...

YOU.... YOU BASTARD!

HYU

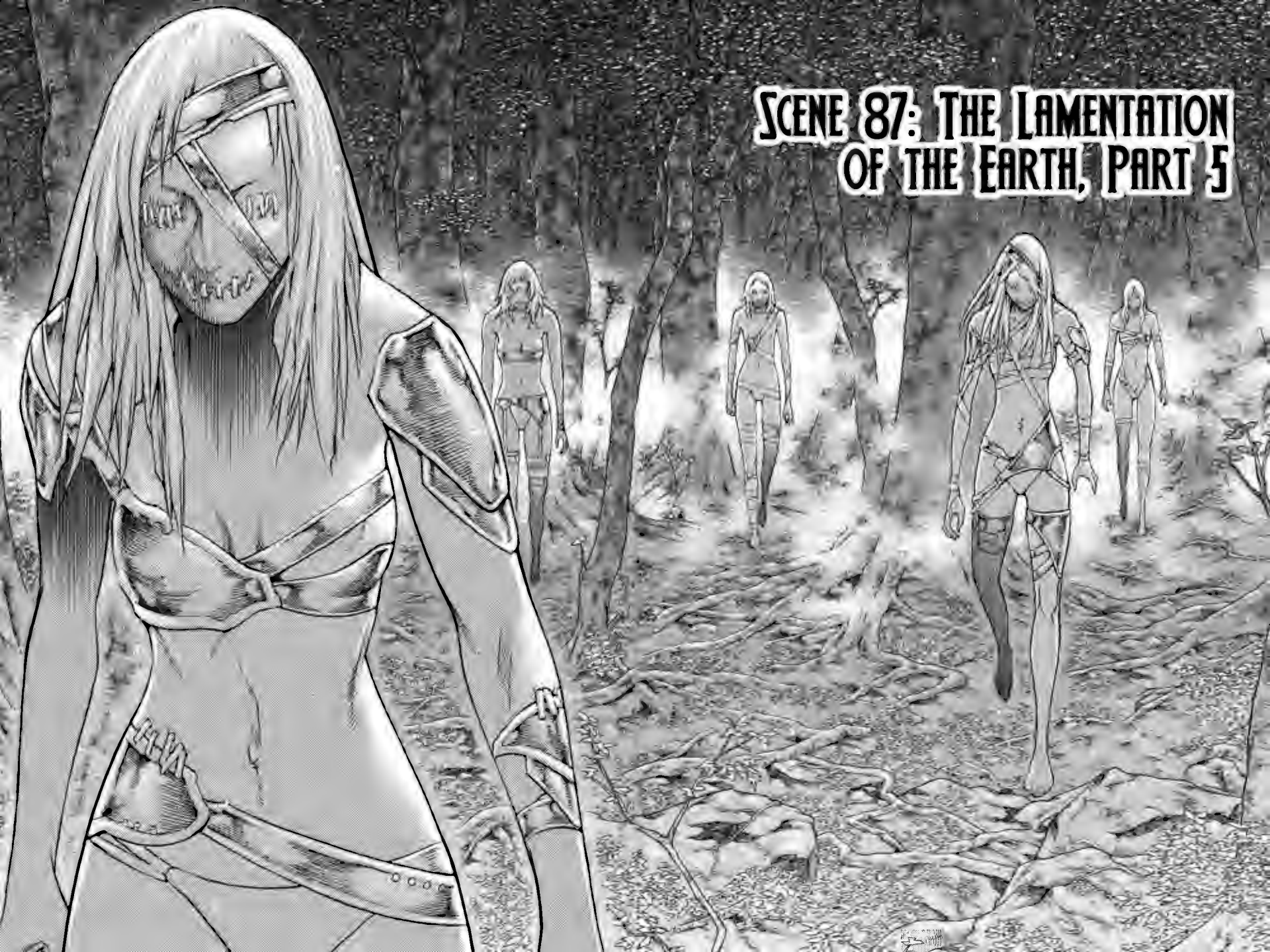
I WILL CRUSH YOU.

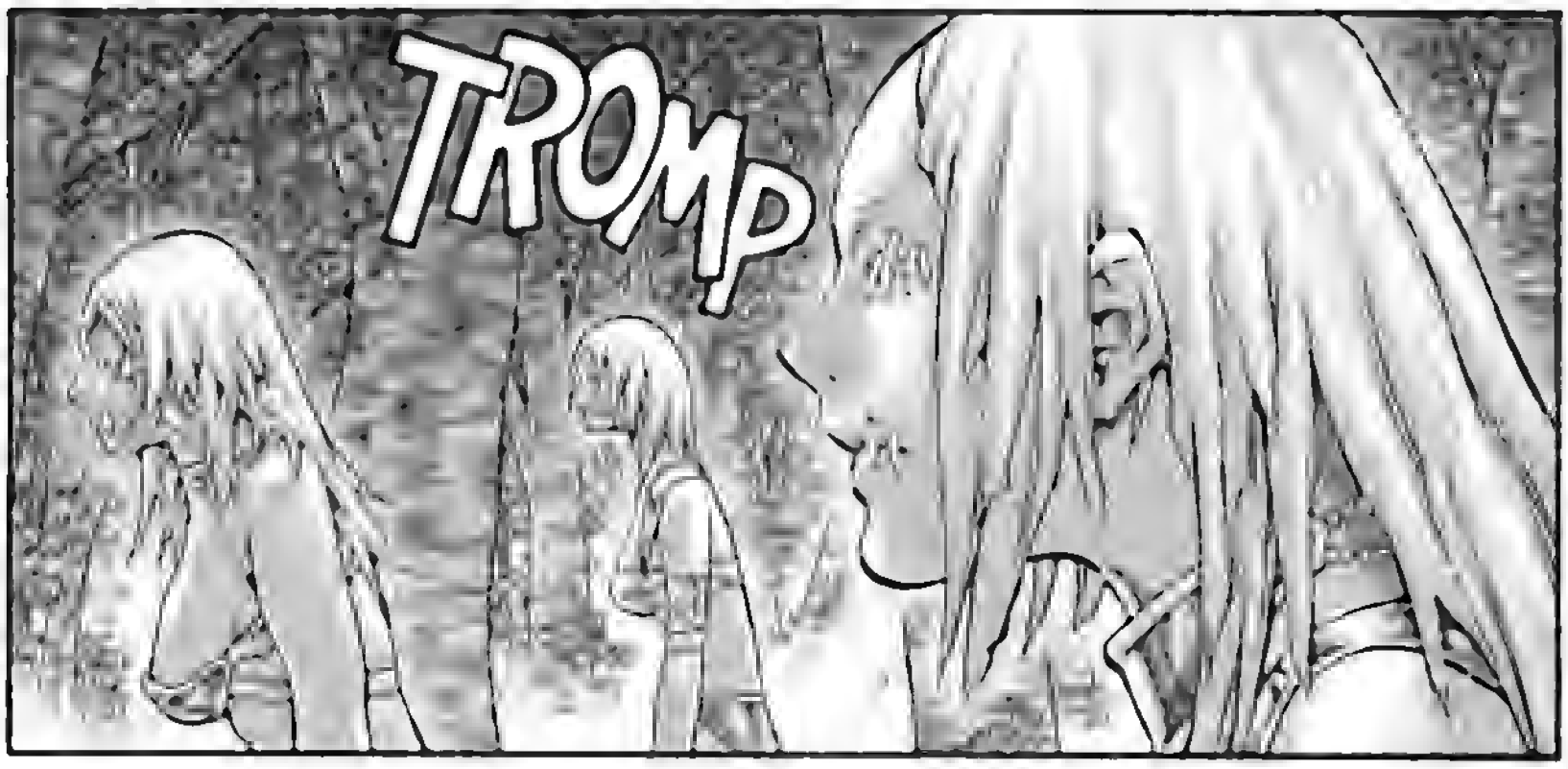
YOU DIS-GUST ME.

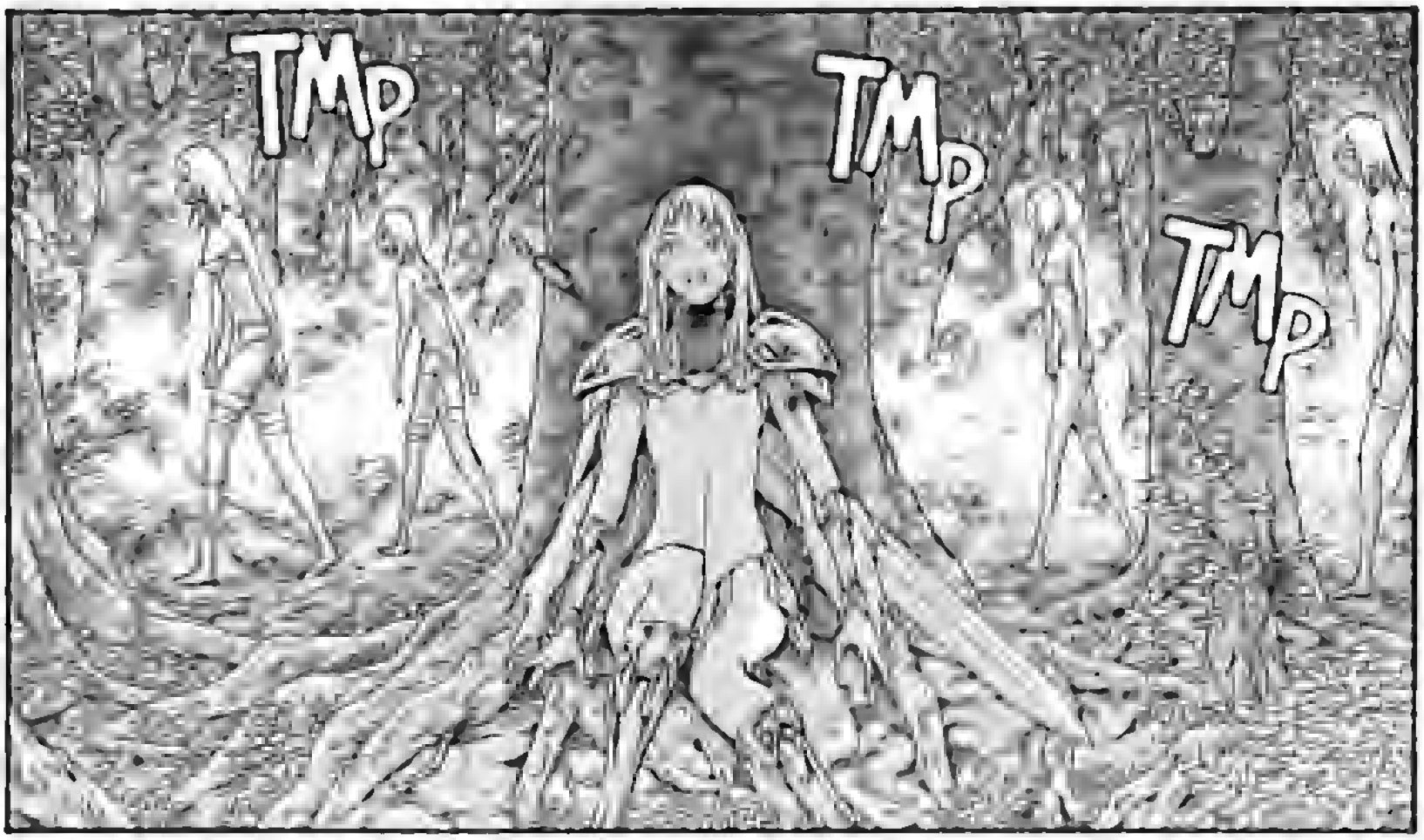
THE DEMONS ...
THEY'RE BACK...
NO...
NO WAY ...
NOT NOW...
DAMN IT...

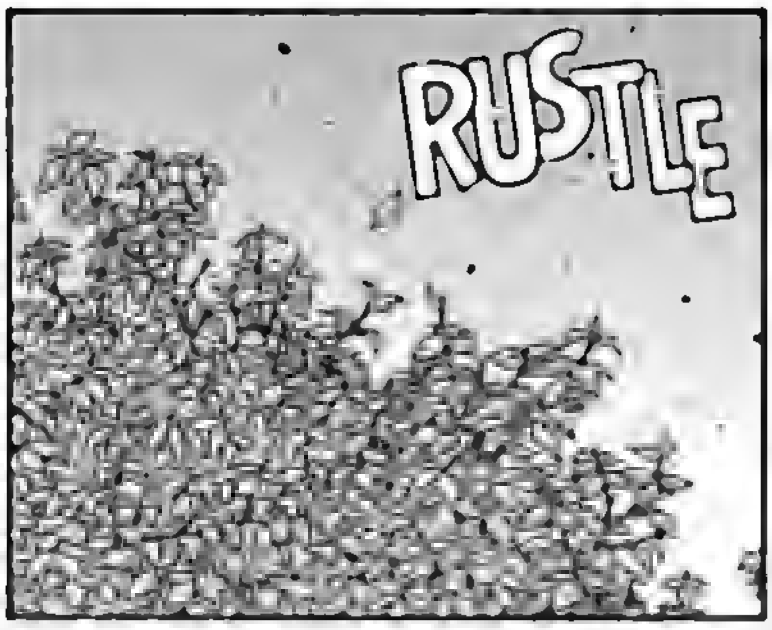
クレイモア
Claymore

Scene 87: The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 5


Scene 87: The Lamentation
of the Earth, Part 5


TROMP


TMP
TMP
TMP


RUSTLE

TCH.
WHAT TERRIBLE TIMING.
NOW THEY'RE GOING TO-

!!

TRO

MP

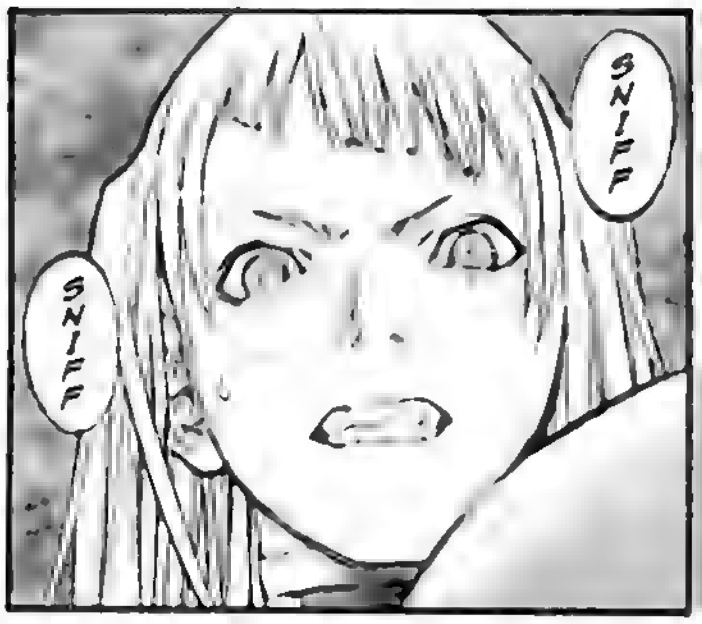
SHF

SSH...

GH...

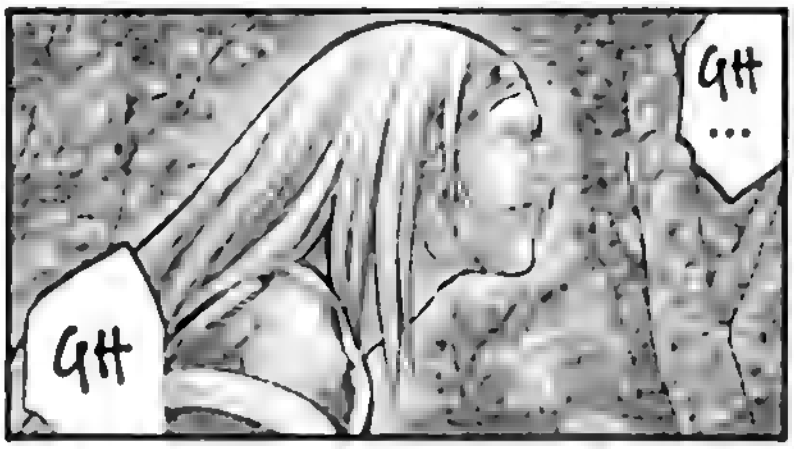
GH...

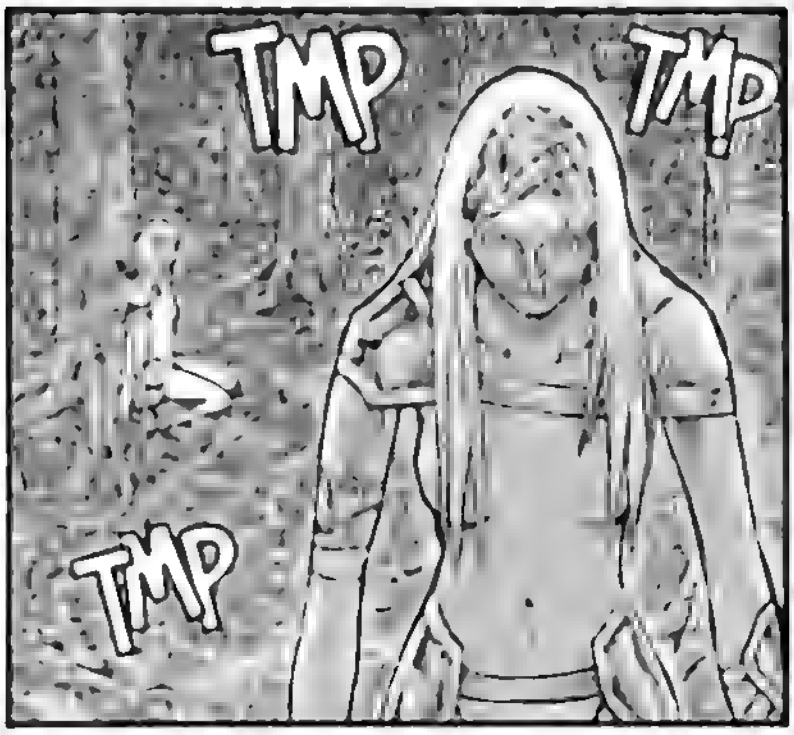
GH


SNIFF
SNIFF

SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF

SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF


GH
GH ...


TMP
TMP
TMP

SH
HF

READ THIS WAY

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

HAAH!

HUFF

HUFF

MY GOD... I NEVER THOUGHT ...

HUFF

... THEY'D COME BACK SO SOON.

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

NOW ONE MORE TOWN ...

...WILL BE DESTROYED.

BOOM

DOOM

RM

BE

DO

M

W-
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

THE...
THE
TOWN
...

RUN!

WE
GOTTA
GET
OUTTA
HERE!

READ THIS WAY

WSSH

WSSH

WSSH

KA

WHOK

HUH?

SSSH

TCH.

THR

UM

DO BAM BAM

DO

M

RUMBL

ZWK

SSL

KTHO

K

SNEAKING AROUND WITH YOUR AURA HIDDEN...

LITTLE WORM...

ZA

TWIST

BOOM

ZSHAAA

GUAH!

YOU DAMN ...

YOU ...

ZAASH

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

BO

AH

GAH

HYUU

AHH

AH

GAAH

GAH

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

WHAT THE...

CRAP...

...I'M THE ONE WHO'S GONNA DIE?!

AFTER ALL THIS...

GUAH!

GH...

READ THIS WAY

NO MATTER HOW BADLY I SLICE HIM UP...

I DON'T FEEL LIKE I'M BEATING HIM.

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I HIT HIM...

...THE MORE I'M CERTAIN IT'S JUST STRENGTHENING HIS OWN, AND THAT HE'S GOING TO THRUST IT RIGHT THROUGH MY BODY.

INSTEAD, THE MORE I DRIVE MY BLADE INTO HIM...

SORRY...

...MIRIA.

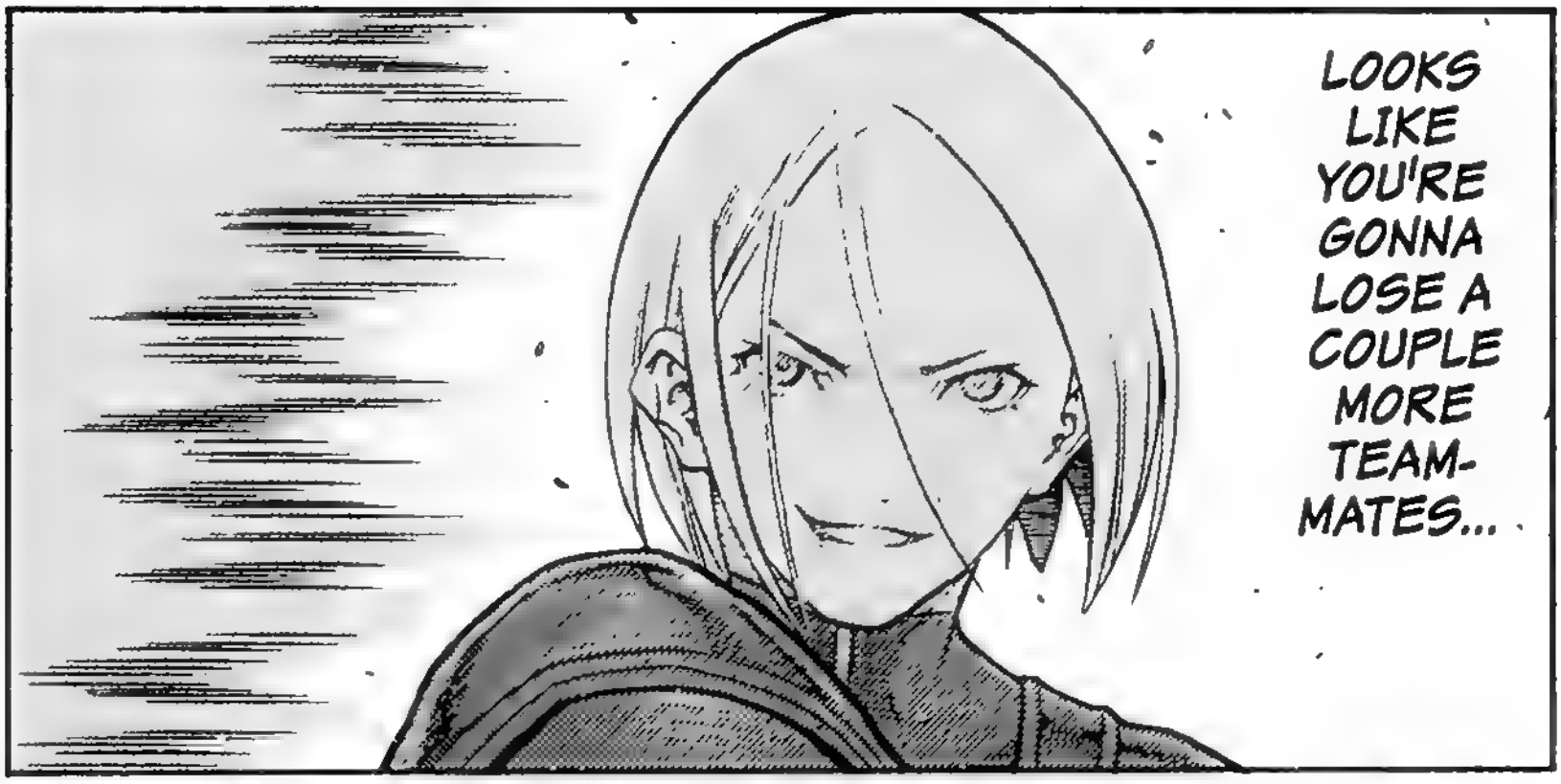
I JUST HAD TO LET MY CURIOSITY GET THE BETTER OF ME.

BUT IT WAS MY FAULT TO START WITH.

YOU WERE THINKING OF TAKING ON AN ENEMY LIKE THIS?

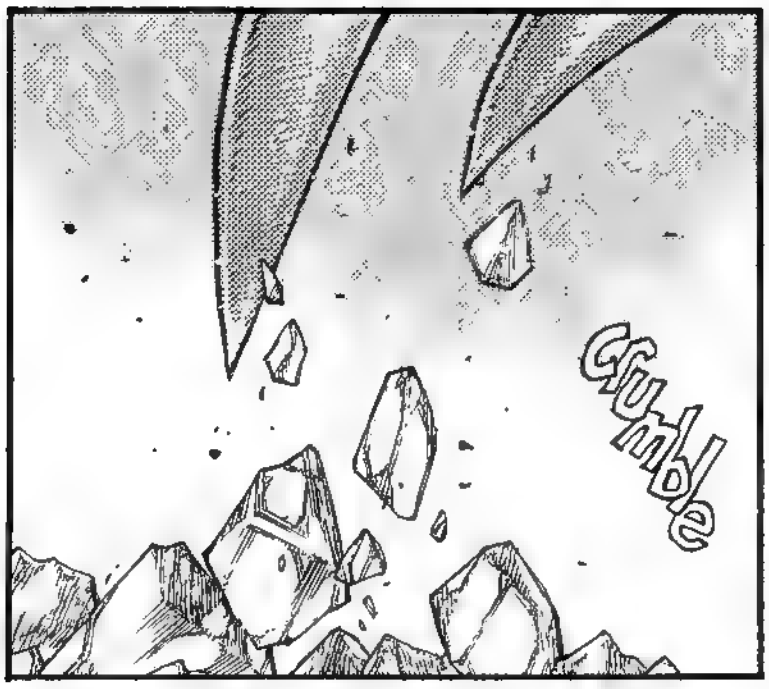
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO AGAINST HIM...!!

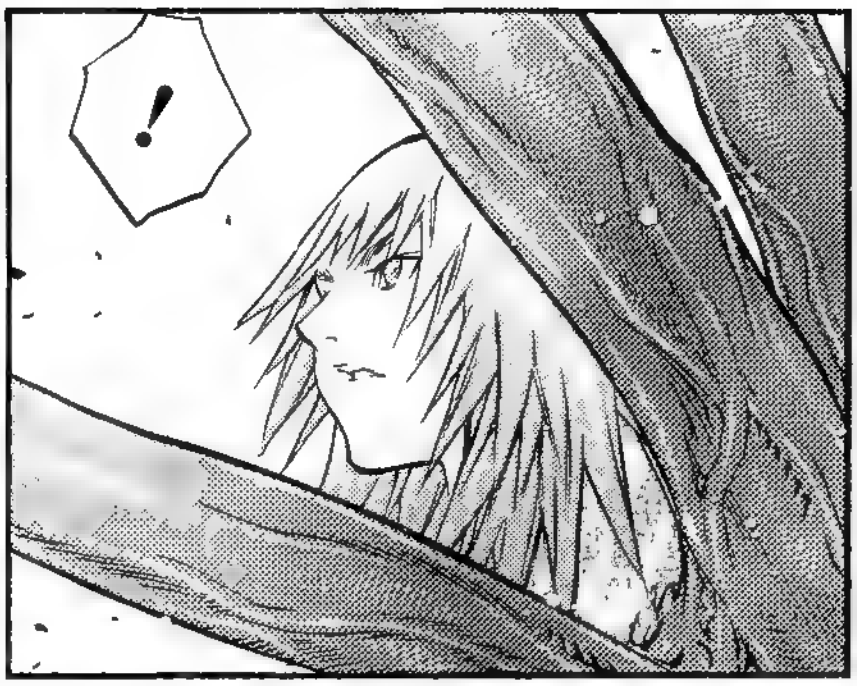
WHAT A CRUEL JOKE, MIRIA.

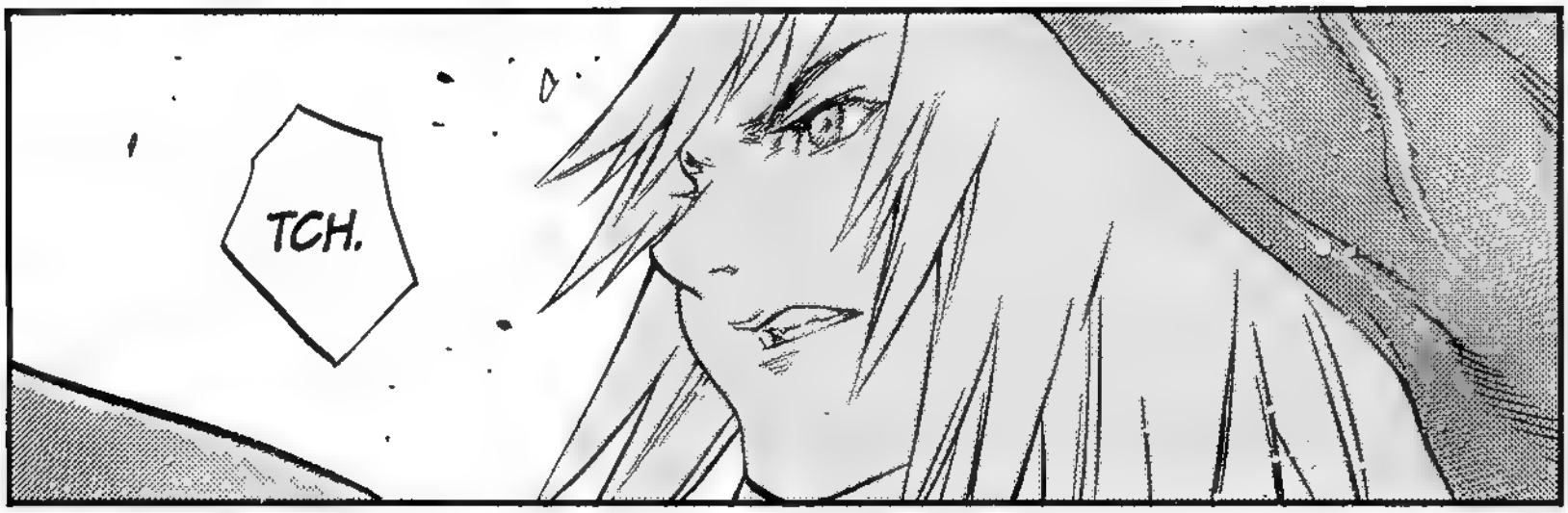

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GONNA LOSE A COUPLE MORE TEAM-MATES...

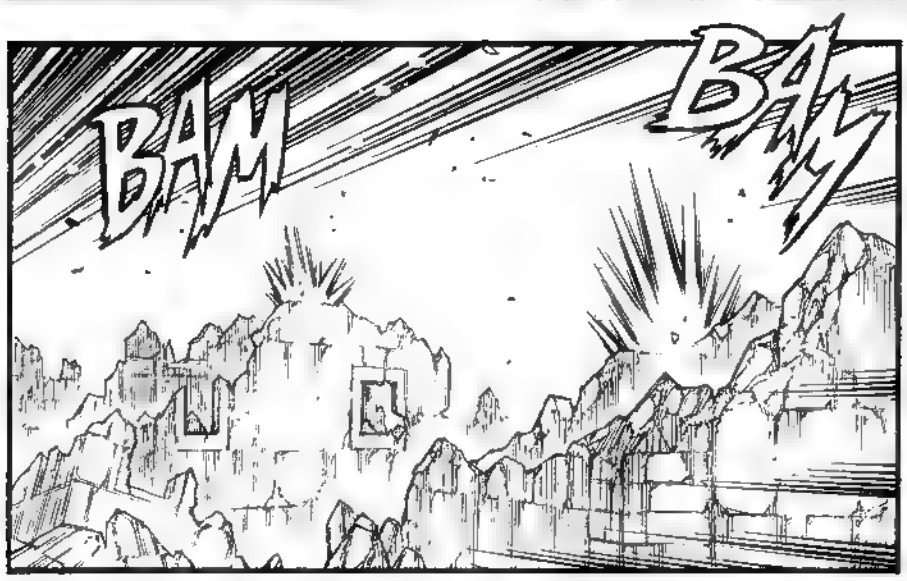
DOA
AAA

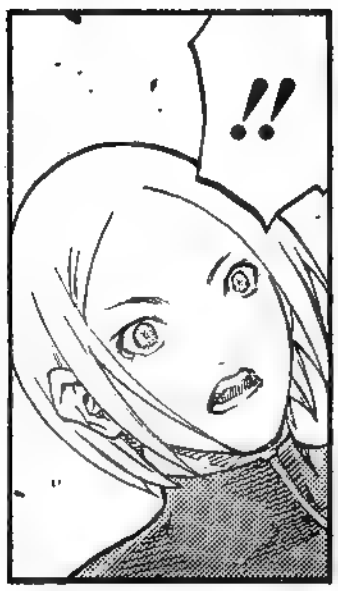
READ THIS WAY











WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

TRYING TO GET YOUR-SELF KILLED?

DENEVE!

IN ORDER TO REGENERATE I HAD TO RELEASE MY ENERGY AND GO BEYOND MY LIMITS, LIKE THAT TIME BEFORE. THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY.

YES, IT WAS PRETTY BAD.

OH, THIS ...

SHF...

B-BUT... YOU...

YOUR BODY ...

READ THIS WAY

YOU ...

THAT MEANS I CAN NO LONGER SUPPRESS MY AURA AND ESCAPE.

SO I'LL ACT AS BAIT. YOU FIGURE OUT A WAY TO GET OUT OF HERE.

HE THOUGHT HE'D ALREADY KILLED YOU AND WAS JUST GOING AFTER ME!

WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST LIE THERE QUIETLY?!

THAT'S WHAT I WAS DOING!

YOU IDIOT!

DID YOU GET HIT ON THE HEAD?!

SO I'M SUPPOSED TO RUN OFF AND LET HIM KILL *YOU*?

!

DO YOU SERIOUSLY BELIEVE I COULD JUST PLAY DEAD AND WATCH YOU GET KILLED?

THINK ABOUT IT.

YOU'RE THE IDIOT.

DO DO

YOU REALLY ARE STUPID.

...

I GUESS WE'RE JUST STUCK WITH EACH OTHER.

BIKI BIKI

BACK AT YOU.

BIKI BIKI

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN SEVEN YEARS I'VE RELEASED MY YOMA ENERGY... AND IT FEELS *GREAT.*

BIKI BIKI

HEH!

BIKI

READ THIS WAY

!

DOOM

WELL, THE TWO OF US STARTED OUT TOGETHER.

BIKI

BIKI

BIKI

I GUESS THAT'S NOT SUCH A BAD WAY TO GO.

BIKI

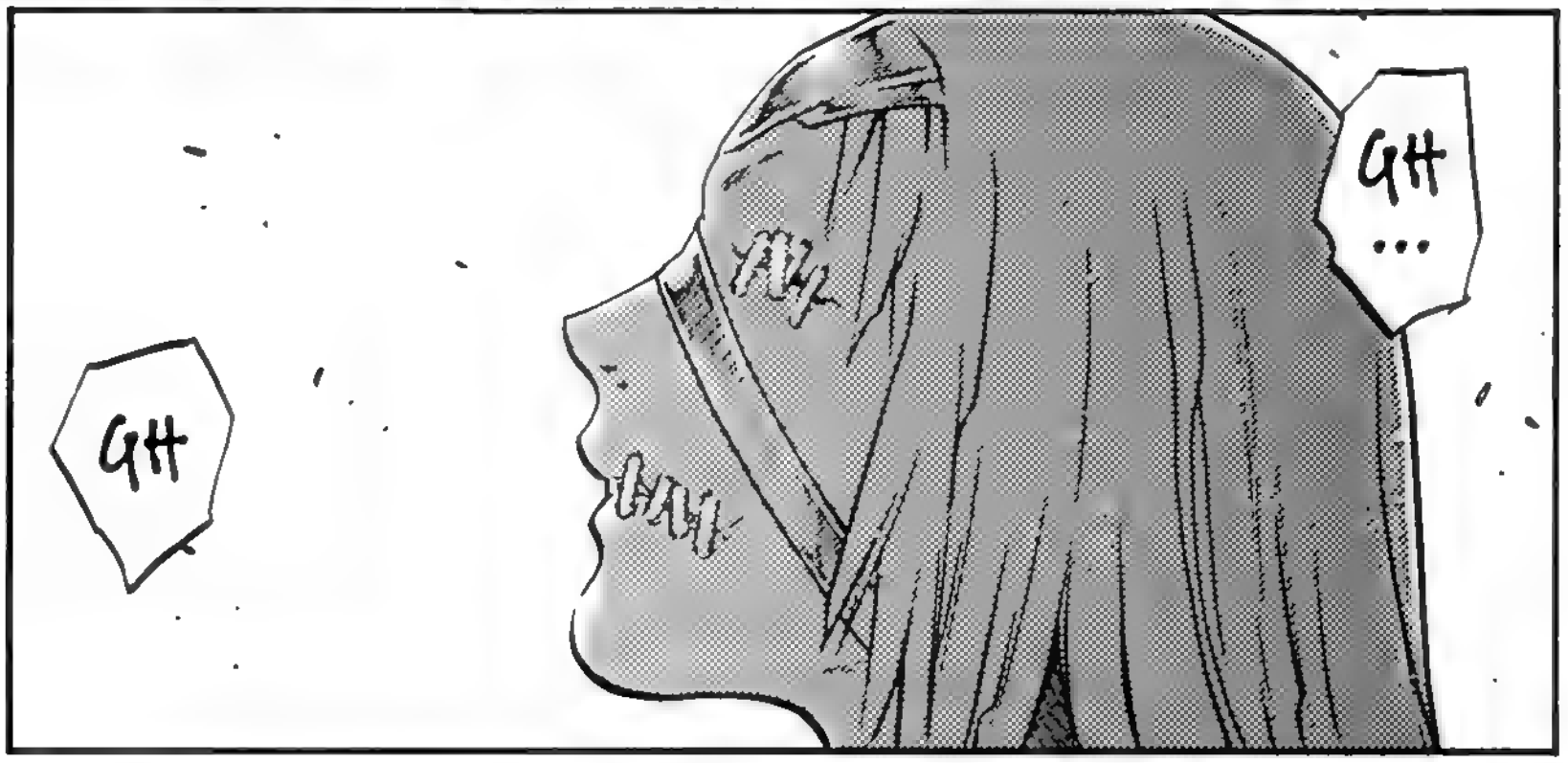
BIKI

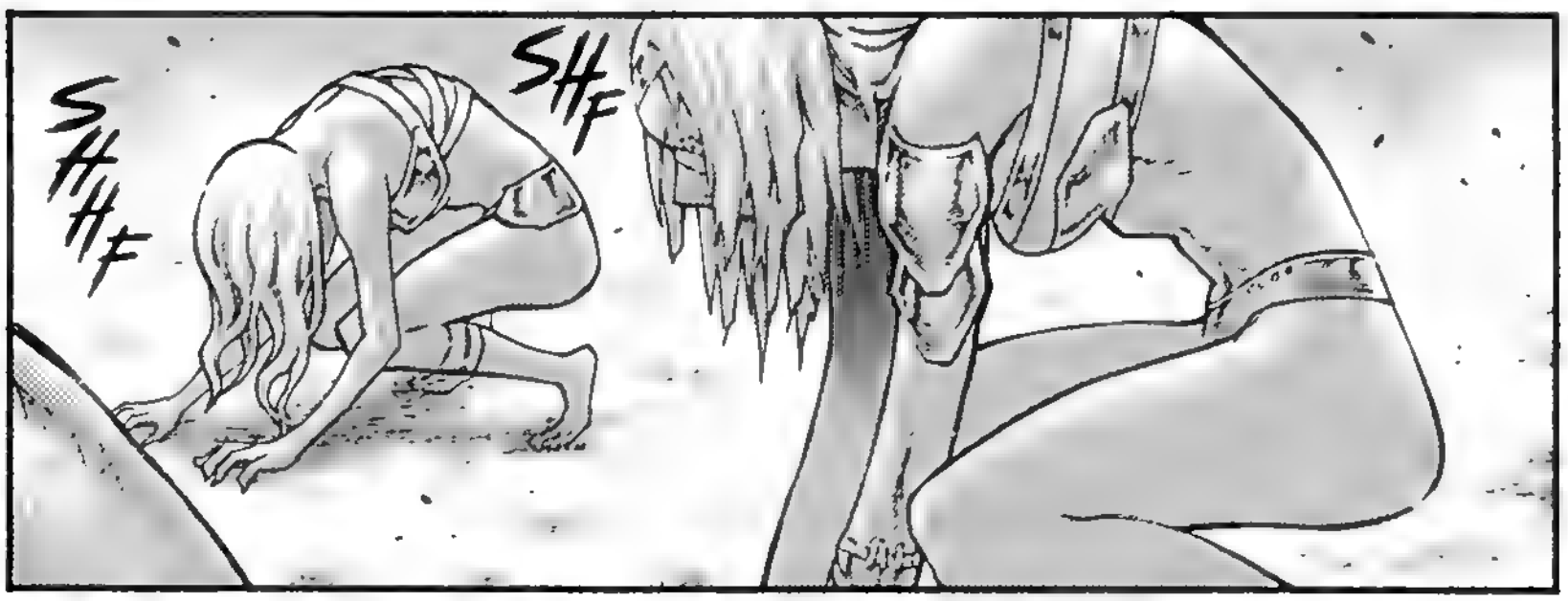
NOW THE TWO OF US WILL END IT TOGETHER.

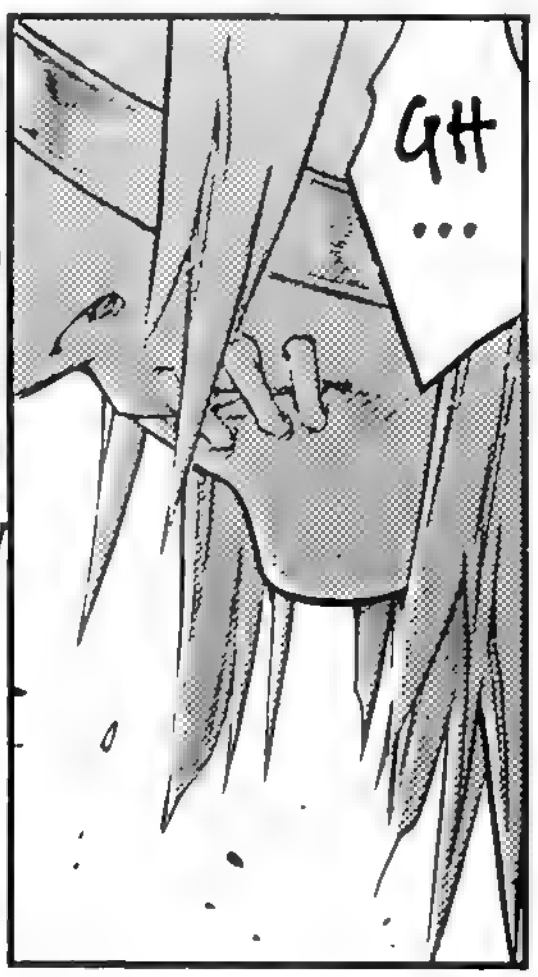
GH...
GH...
GH
GH...
GH
GSSH...
TROMP
TROMP

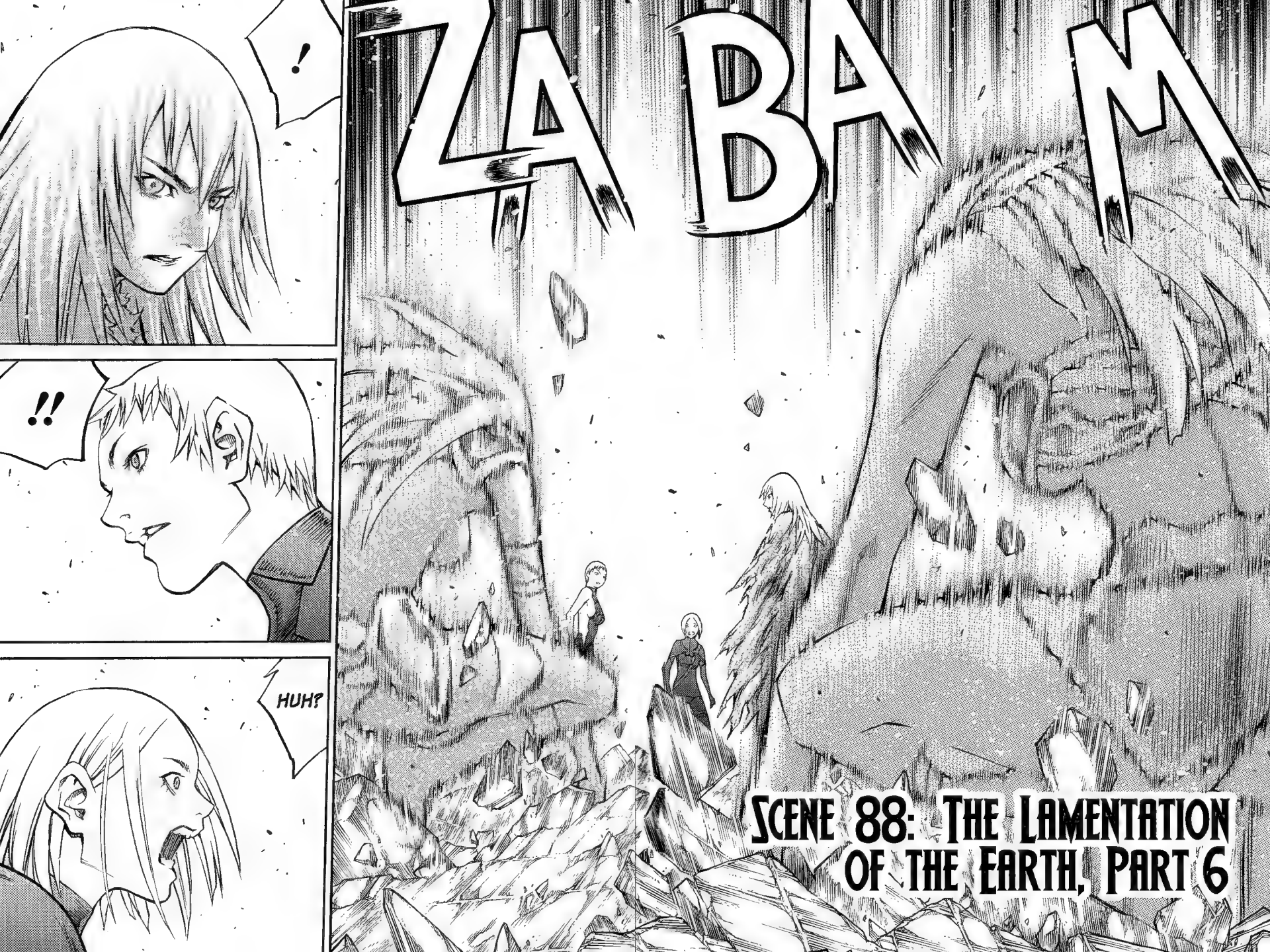
クレイモア
Claymore

Scene 88: The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 6









Scene 88: The Lamentation of the Earth, Part 6

I WENT A LITTLE TOO FAR...

DAMN.

WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY?

WHAT ...

GH GH

GH ...

HELEN!

STOP!

...BUT I DON'T THINK THEY'RE FRIENDLY.

I DUNNO WHAT THEY ARE...

ZSSH

TCH.

GA

SHUT

VMM

GH
...

GH

EH?

ZA AKSHU

DO M

DO GA GA

YOU ...

AGH ...

AAAH!

SH

TAK

THUD

AGH!

THUD

AH...

NGH ...

BAM

YOU

REATTACH IT AND REGENER-ATE YOUR EYE— QUICKLY!

GRAB YOUR RIGHT ARM!

THIS THING ...

BA

!!

BA

KA

THOK

PAH

PAH

PAH

BIK

ZSSH

DO

GA

A

!

YOU ...

SHF

GA SHA

!!

!!

DON'T MOVE!

HOLD YOUR BREATH AND FREEZE!

GH ...

GH ...

SHIFF

GH ...

GH

SHAK

GH

GH

AAH

GH ...

NGH ...

...

KR SH

TOMP

THEY REACT TO QUICK MOVE-MENTS.

ALL RIGHT, NOW MOVE SLOWLY ...

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

TMP

TMP

TMP

I DON'T SENSE ANY YOMA ENERGY.

IT'S LIKE THEY'RE ...

WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY?

SHAK

!

DOGAA

GH
...
GH
GH
...

!!

WHA ...?!

ISLEY'S AWAK-ENED FORM...

THAT'S ...

READ THIS WAY

GH ...

SHIIIOO

GGH ...

GGH

GGH

BOKI

BOKI

THROB

THROB

HE'S TAKEN DOWN ...

... THREE OF THEM.

!

SHHF

BOKO

BOKO

BOKO

BOKO

BEKI

GH ... GH

GH

GH

GHH ... GH

!!

READ THIS WAY

TCH.

WSSH

GH...

GH

SHLP
SHLP
SHLP
SHLP

WHAT...?

!

BA

M

BOKO

GH

GHAA

BOKO

BOKO

GH

BOKO

GIH

READ THIS WAY

BOKO
BOKO
GHA
BOKO
BOKO
BOKO
GH...
GH
GHH...
GH
GH
GH...
THEY'RE IMMORTAL?
IMPOSSIBLE...

THR

U

BOKO

BOKO

BOKO

BOKO

BEGONE.

BO

OA

WHOA!

DO GA

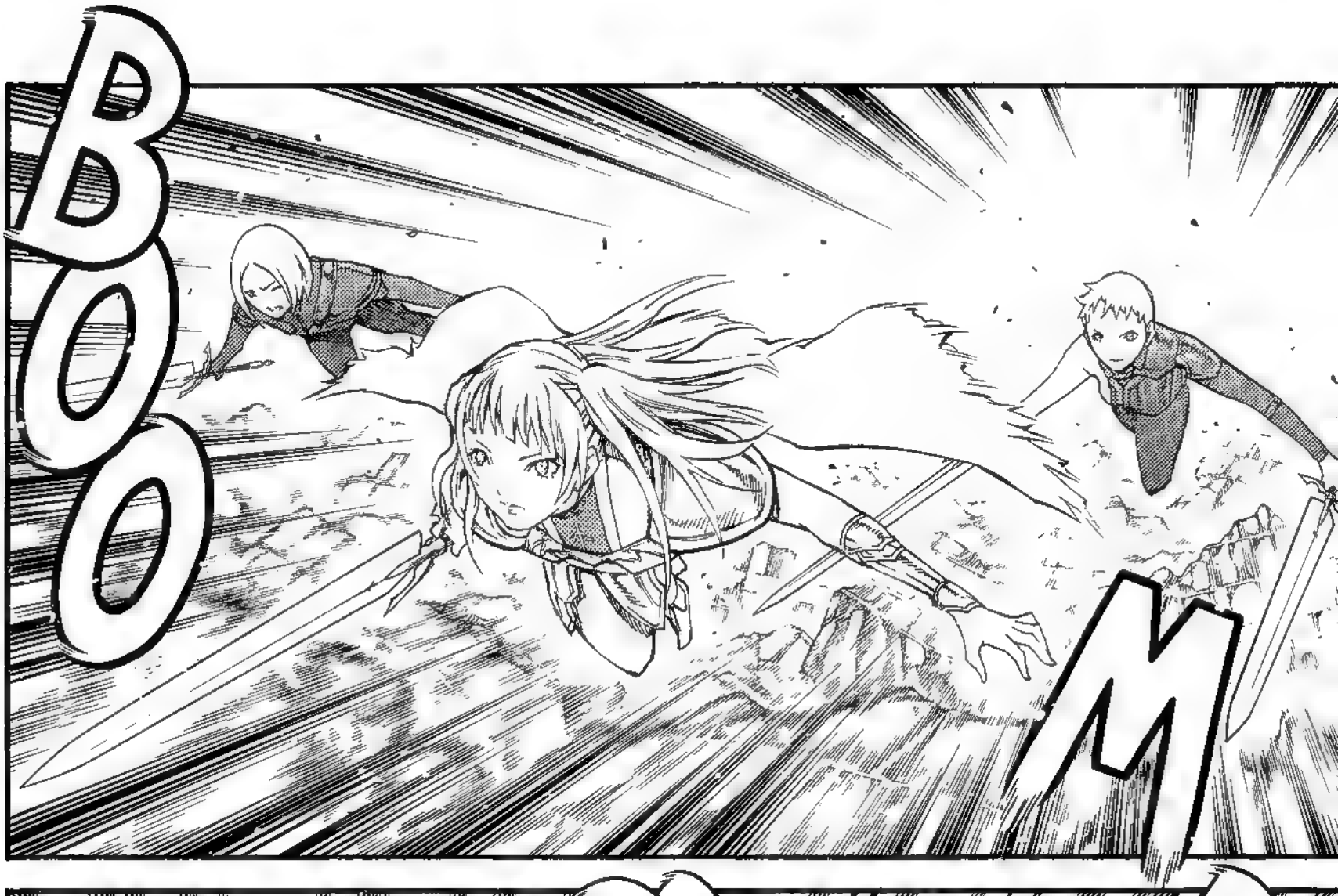
DO GA !

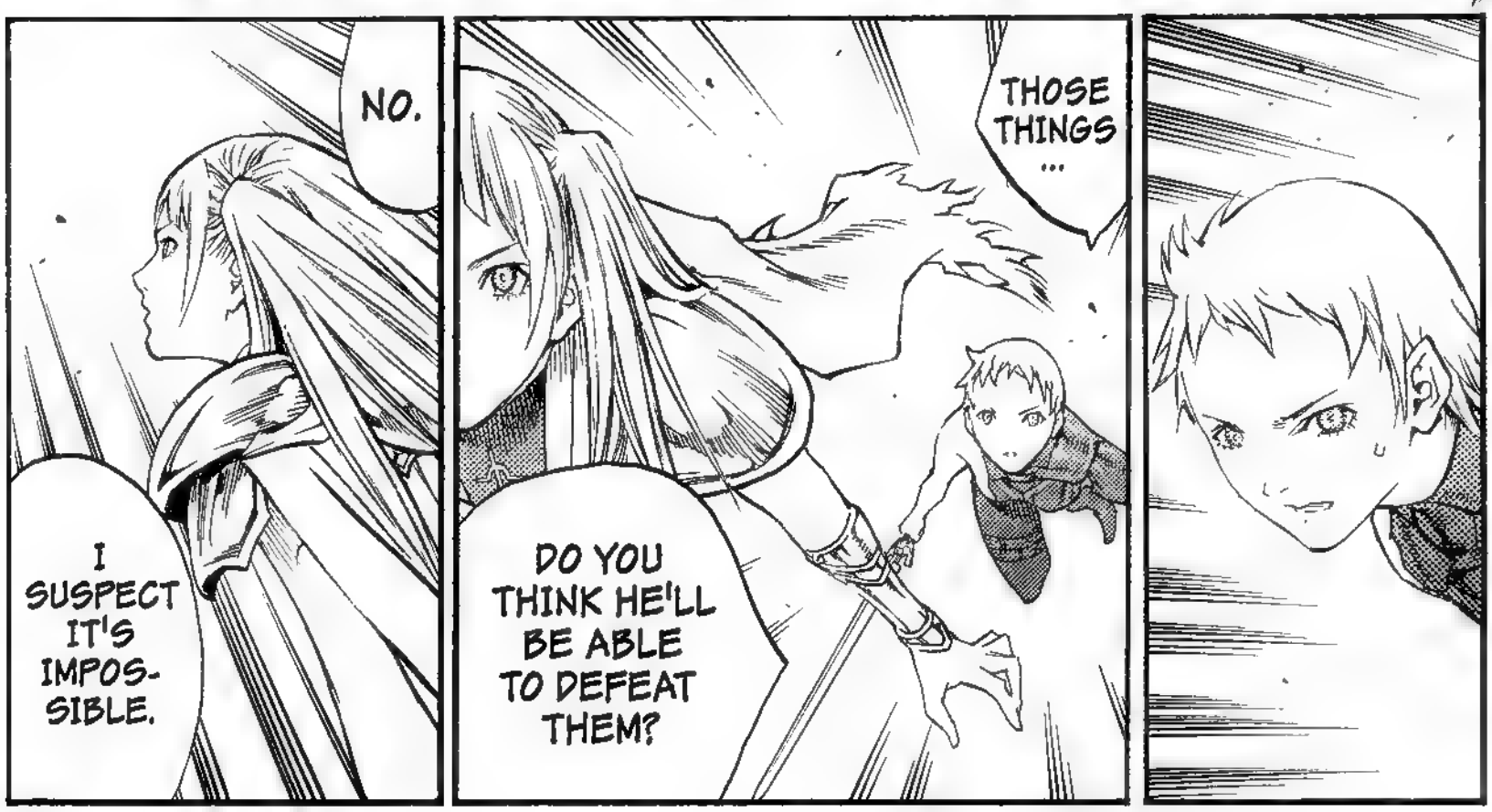
THIS TOWN IS DONE FOR!

LET'S GO!

GA ...

GH


BOOM
DO
GA
GA
DO
GA
GA


NO.
I SUSPECT IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.
THOSE THINGS ...
DO YOU THINK HE'LL BE ABLE TO DEFEAT THEM?

READ THIS WAY

THAT IS TO SAY, AS LONG AS THEY GUARD THAT VULNERABILITY, THEY CAN RETAIN ENOUGH ENERGY TO REGENERATE RAPIDLY.

THAT'S WHY NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, THEY MOVE IN SUCH A WAY AS TO PROTECT THEIR HEADS.

JUST LIKE OTHER YOMA AND AWAKENED ONES, THEIR VULNERABLE POINTS ARE THEIR HEADS.

...THEY'RE AWAK-ENED ONES?

SO YOU'RE SAYING ...

!!

HUH?

...AS WEAPONS AGAINST THE CREATURES OF THE ABYSS.

THEY WERE CREATED BY THE ORGANI-ZATION ...

...

KRAK

THWA

UGH.

GHA

GHA

GHA

GH

GH

WE'RE DOWN-WIND...

...AND WE'RE FAR ENOUGH AWAY NOW THAT THEY WON'T FIND US.

ZSSH

HOW ARE YOUR WOUNDS?

I RE-ATTACHED MY ARM, BUT I'M HAVING TROUBLE WITH MY EYE.

I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO FIX IT.

HELEN?

WITH ALL THAT'S HAP-PENED NOW...

...YOU CAN'T SAY WE'RE NOT INVOLVED.

I WANT YOU TO TELL US WHAT THOSE THINGS ARE.

SEVEN YEARS AGO, AROUND THE SAME TIME AS THE BATTLE OF THE NORTH, THE ORGANIZATION ENDED ONE LINE OF RESEARCH AND BEGAN ANOTHER.

THEY TOOK THE BODIES OF THE ELEVEN AWAKENED ONES THAT HAD ATTACKED THEIR HEADQUARTERS AND STARTED EXPERIMENTING WITH THEM.

...

THEY CREATED A NEW BREED OF WARRIOR USING THE FLESH NOT OF YOMA...

...BUT OF AWAKENED ONES.

WHAT ...?

THAT'S INSANE.

IF THEY DID THAT, THEN—

THAT'S RIGHT. THE THINGS THAT CAME INTO BEING CAN'T BE CALLED WARRIORS AT ALL.

INSTEAD OF CREATING HUMANS WHO POSSESS MONSTROUS QUALITIES, THE ORGANIZATION CREATED MONSTERS IN HUMAN FORM.

READ THIS WAY

ALL THAT REMAINS IS A BURNING HUNGER FOR FLESH AND BLOOD.

THE ORGANIZATION ACCOMPLISHED THIS BY USING THE RESULTS OF THE EXPERIMENTS COMPLETED SEVEN YEARS AGO.

THE REALITY IS THAT THEY NO LONGER POSSESS EVEN A SHRED OF HUMANITY.

THEIR EYES WERE RIPPED OUT AND THEIR MOUTHS SEWN UP. THEY WERE MADE INTO CREATURES THAT WOULD END-LESSLY PURSUE THE PREY THAT WAS ALLOTTED TO THEM.

GH

GH

THE SUBJECTS' SENSE OF SELF WAS TORN OUT FROM THE ROOTS, AND THEY WERE CONDITIONED TO CRAVE ONLY A SINGLE SOURCE OF FOOD.

EXACTLY.

OH MY GOD ...

AND THAT ONE FOOD THEY WERE CONDI-TIONED TO...?

THEY WERE SIMPLY IMPRINTED WITH THE SCENT OF THEIR PREY AND THEN RELEASED TO WANDER THE SOUTHERN LANDS IN SEARCH OF IT.

THEY WERE MODIFIED SO THAT THEY CANNOT RELEASE YOMA ENERGY, AND AS A RESULT THEY ARE NOT ABLE TO READ YOMA ENERGY.

A PIECE OF ISLEY'S FLESH.

AGENTS OF THE ORGANI-ZATION OBTAINED IT HERE IN THE SOUTH.

RIP

RIP

RIP

RIP

UOO

UWOO

GHA

GHA

GHA

RRNCH

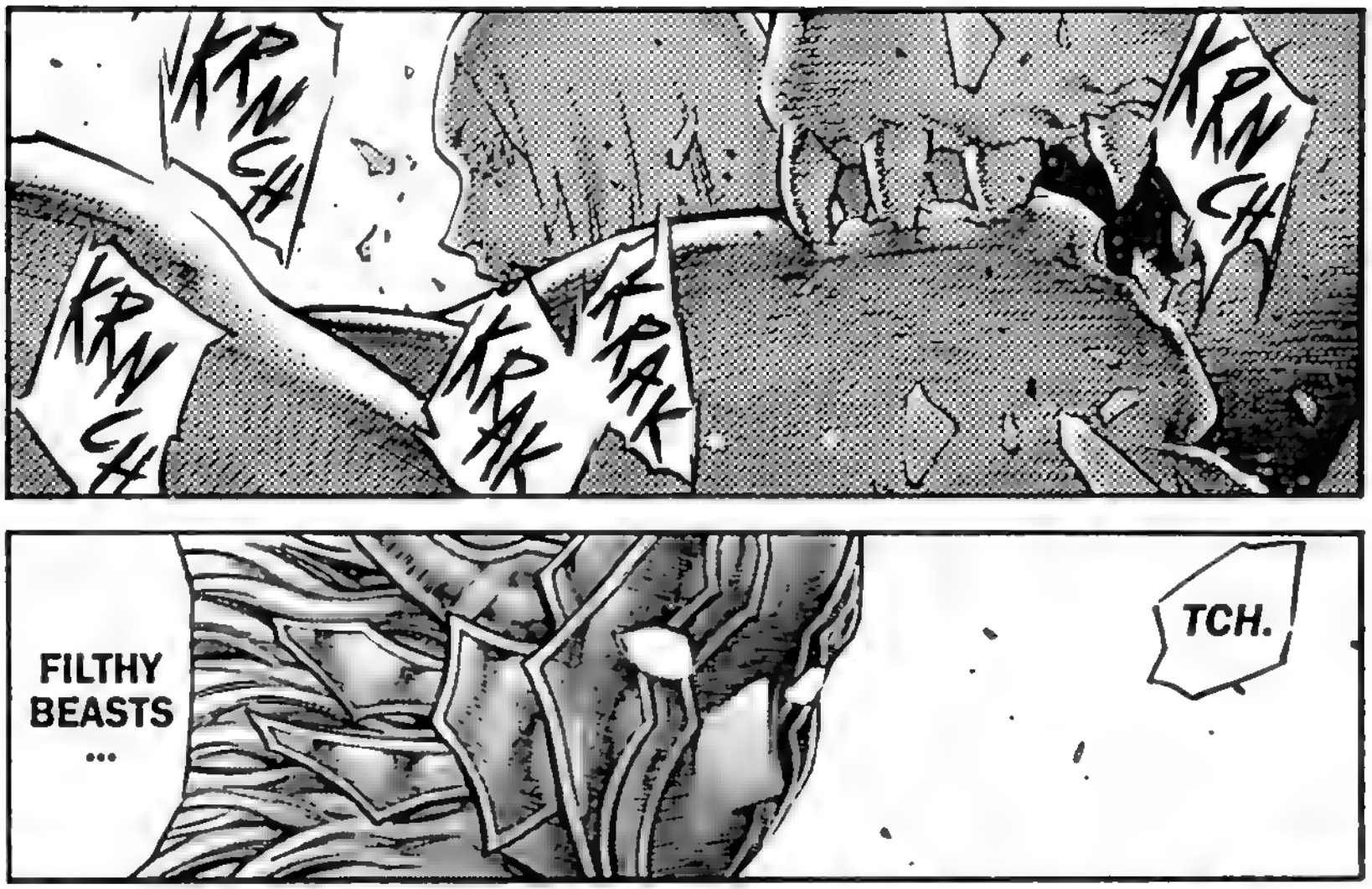
RIIP

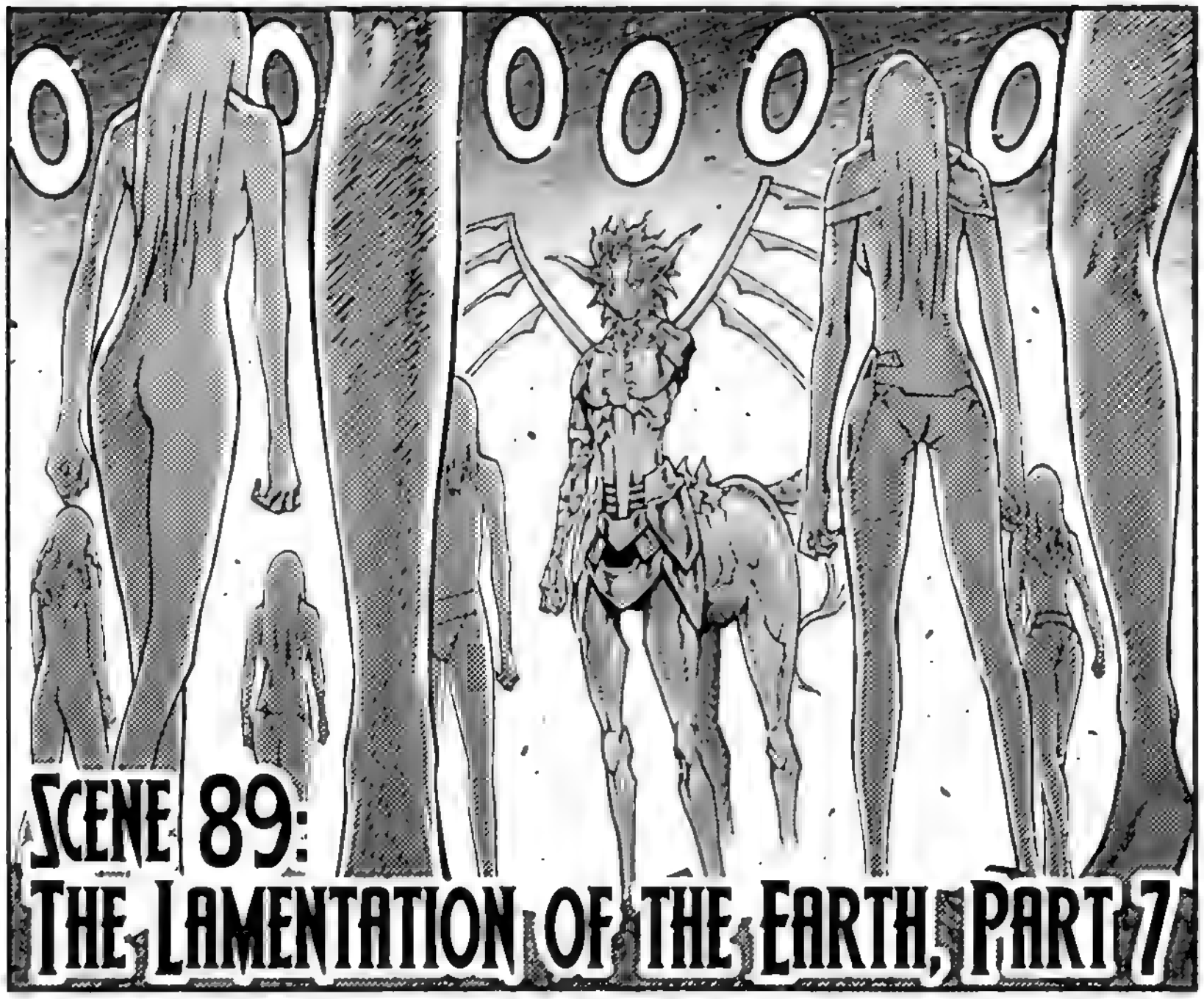
READ THIS WAY

KRAK
KRNCH
KRNCH
KRSH
KRSH
KRNCH
KRNCH
TCH.
FILTHY BEASTS ...
THE ORGANI-ZATION CREATED ELEVEN OF THESE DEMONS.
GH GH ...
GH
!
SHHF

THAT IS WHAT ...
...THE ORGANI-ZATION HAS NAMED THEM.
ABYSS FEEDERS.

クレイモア
Claymore





SCENE 89: THE LAMENTATION OF THE EARTH, PART 7

BOKO
BOKO
BOKO
BOKO
BOKO
BOKO
WHUMP
YOU...
KRNCH
KRNCH
KRAK
GHAAAA

KA

WHA

SLSSH

THUD

GH...

GH...

GH...

BOKO BOKO BOKO

GHA

WHOA

BIKI

BIKI

BIKI

GH

GH ...

THUMP

KRSSH

READ THIS WAY

THEY WON'T EVEN GIVE ME A CHANCE TO REGEN-ERATE.

HOW IRRITA-TING...

BA BAM

HMPH.

GRAAH

THE WORK

ZASH

SPLAT

GHA

GA

GH...

GA...

GA

BO TO
BO TO
BO TO
BO TO
BO TO
GH
BO TO
BO KO
GH ...
GHA ... GHA
BO KO
BI KI
BO TO
BO TO
GHA
GRAAAH
...TO CRUSH THEIR HEADS AS IT WAS BEFORE.
AND IT'S NO LONGER AS EASY ...

SHA

K

...I MUST RELY ON MY SWORD.

ONCE AGAIN, IN THE END...

THIS TIME I'LL WIPE YOU FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

COME.

GH

GH

GH ...

READ THIS WAY

SO THE ORGANI-ZATION CREATED ...

...A GROUP OF ELEVEN DEMONS.

OR AT LEAST THERE WERE ELEVEN WHEN THEY STARTED OUT.

HOW MANY HAVE SURVIVED UNTIL NOW?

AWAKENED ONE HUNTING PARTIES CONTINUE TO GATHER NEW FLESH.

AND THAT'S HOW NEW DEMONS—NEW ABYSS FEEDERS—ARE CREATED.

ALMOST ALL OF THE ORIGINAL ELEVEN ARE GONE.

IT WAS PROGRAMMED INTO THEIR CONSCIOUSNESS THAT IF MORE THAN HALF OF THEM—SIX—ARE KILLED, THE REST ARE TO RETURN TO THE ORGANIZATION HEAD-QUARTERS.

IT'S HARD TO PURSUE THE DEMONS WHEN THEY RUN.

THEY DON'T HAVE AURAS, AND THEY SCATTER IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

!

IF THEY DO THAT ...

THEN ...

YES.

AFTER THAT, THE PSYCHES OF THE REMAINING FOUR ARE MERGED WITH THOSE OF THE NEWLY CREATED ONES SO THAT THEY ALL POSSESS KNOWLEDGE OF THE SAME EXPERIENCES.

EVEN IF HE PURSUES THEM WITH ALL HIS MIGHT, AT BEST ISLEY CAN GET ONLY ONE OF THEM.

...THE DEMONS WILL INEVITABLY ACQUIRE THE POWER TO DESTROY ISLEY.

LITTLE BY LITTLE ...

HUH?!

!!

READ THIS WAY

FOR THINGS THAT TRACK BY SMELL, THE HARDEST PLACE TO FIND PREY IS IN A TOWN, WHERE HUNDREDS OF SCENTS ARE ALL MINGLED TOGETHER.

MOST LIKELY.

...ISLEY WAS HIDING IN THAT TOWN DISGUISED AS A HUMAN.

SO THAT'S WHY...

THAT WOULD MAKE ANYONE WANNA HIDE.

A PACK OF DEMONS SLAVERING FOR HIS FLESH... THAT KEEP COMING BACK AGAIN AND AGAIN, AND STRONGER EACH TIME NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES HE KILLS THEM...

...IS PLANNING TO FINISH HIM OFF FOR GOOD.

THIS TIME, THE ORGANI-ZATION ...

SHK

THE INTERVAL BETWEEN EACH ATTACK IS GETTING SHORTER.

ISLEY NO LONGER HAS THE TIME TO COMPLETELY HEAL HIS WOUNDS FROM THE PREVIOUS BATTLE.

IN THE END, HIS EFFORTS CAN ONLY BUY HIM A BIT OF TIME.

WE'RE HEADING WEST.

EH?

THE TRIP HOME IS CANCELLED, HELEN.

GA SHAK

AND THEN WE'LL HAVE CYNTHIA REGENER-ATE THAT EYE OF YOURS.

WE'LL MEET UP WITH CLARE'S GROUP.

CAN THE DEMONS BE MADE TO GO AFTER OTHER CREATURES OF THE ABYSS?

DIETRICH, WAS IT?

UH...

BUT ...

READ THIS WAY

OH!

IF YOU HAVE A PIECE OF THE TARGET'S BODY, IT'S POSSIBLE.

THEIR BEHAVIOR IS DICTATED BY FOLLOWING THE SCENT OF THE OBJECT OF THEIR HUNGER.

...THERE MUST BE PIECES WE HACKED OFF THAT CREATURE OF THE ABYSS—

IN THE WEST...

THAT'S A TROUBLING DEVELOP-MENT.

...

I HOPE IT'S JUST A GROUND-LESS FEAR, BUT IF WE'RE GOING, I SUGGEST WE HURRY.

WHY IS THAT?

WE CAN'T ASSUME THAT THE ORGANI-ZATION HASN'T OBTAINED THOSE REMAINS, SINCE IT WAS A SITE WHERE SOME CURRENT WARRIORS WERE ALREADY FIGHTING HER.

RIFUL OF THE WEST.

!

THEY CLAIM IT'S BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO ARREST THE MOVEMENTS OF THE AWAKENED ONES AFTER THE BATTLE OF THE NORTH. BUT THE REAL REASON IS THAT THEY NEED FLESH TO CREATE MORE DEMONS.

THE ORGANIZATION NOW ACTIVELY TARGETS AWAKENED ONES, REGARD-LESS OF WHETHER THERE'S A JOB REQUEST OR NOT.

AND IF THEY HAVE MANAGED TO ACQUIRE A PIECE OF ANOTHER CREATURE OF THE ABYSS, CHANCES ARE THEY ARE ALREADY MAKING THEIR MOVE.

MY FEAR IS THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS A HIDDEN RESERVE OF MORE THAN JUST ELEVEN DEMONS.

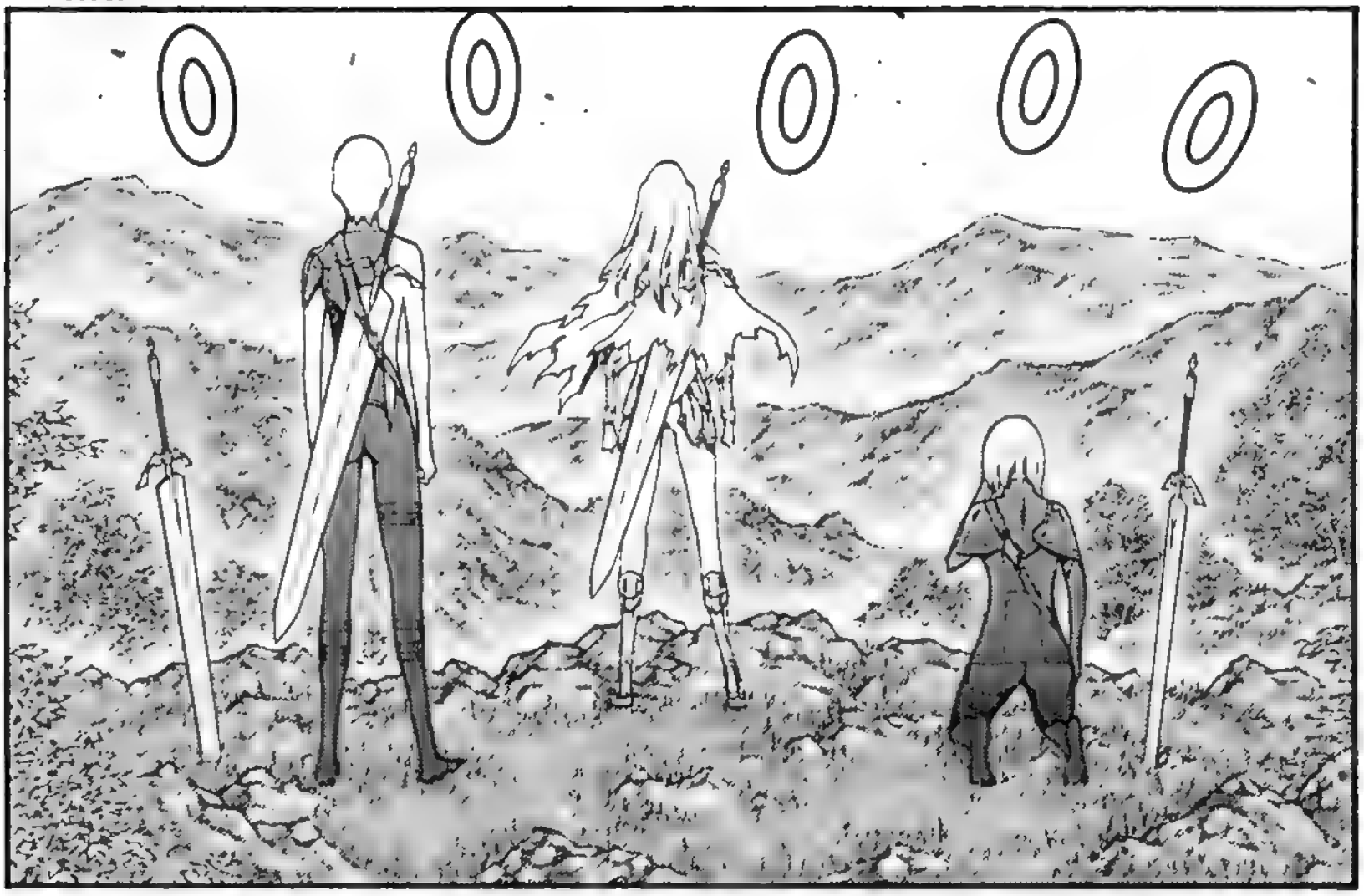
!

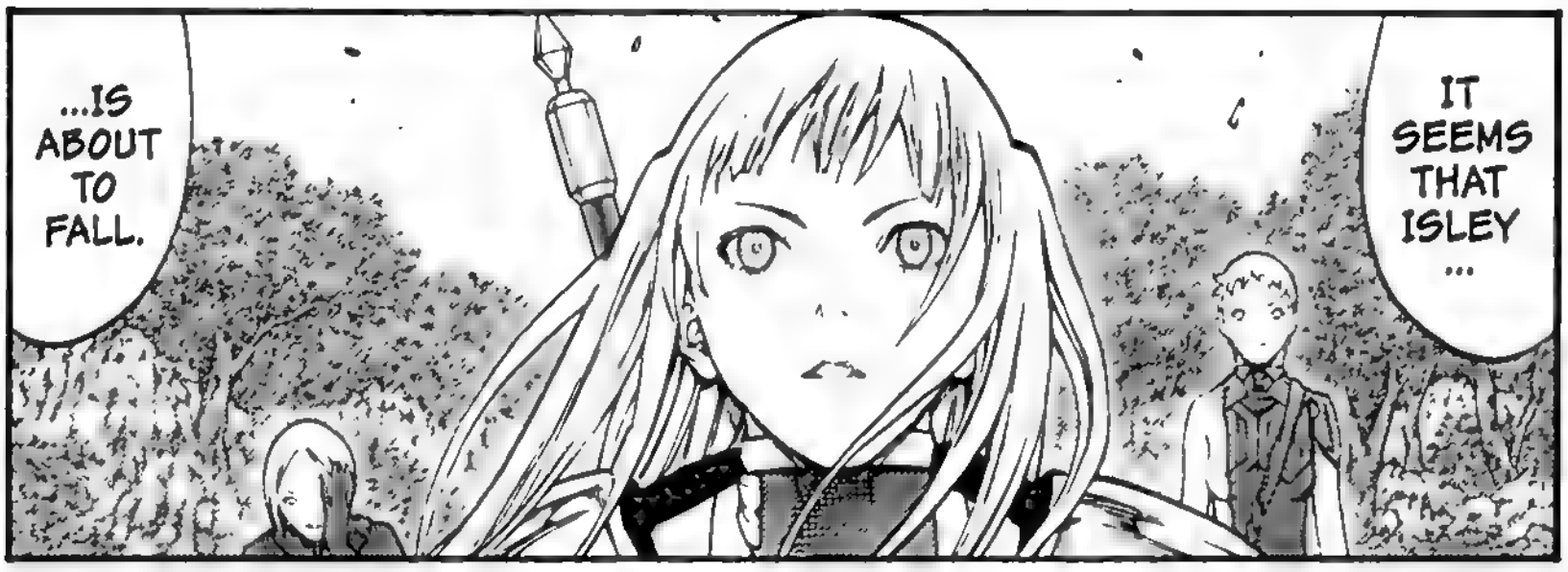
BOOM

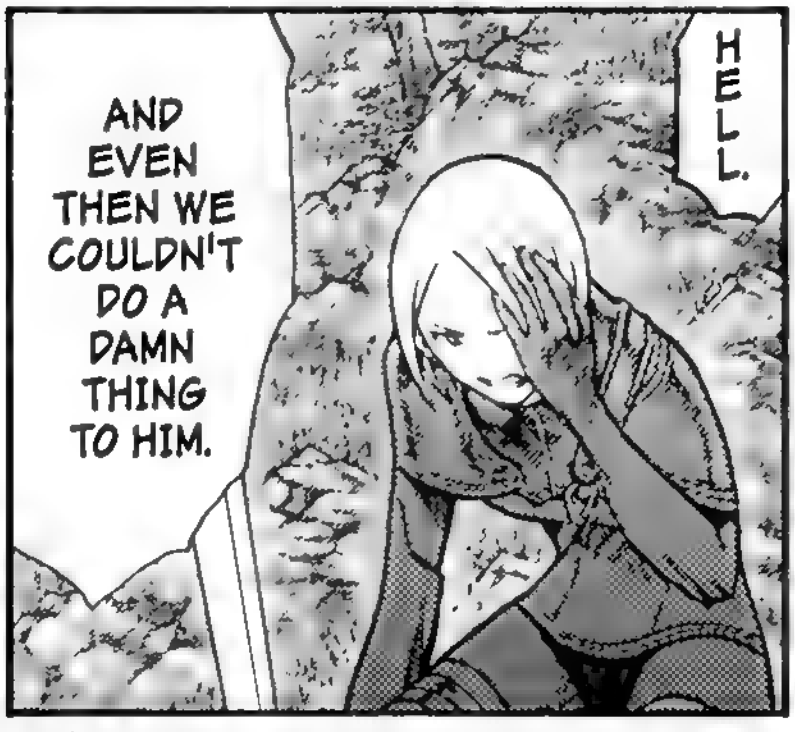
!!

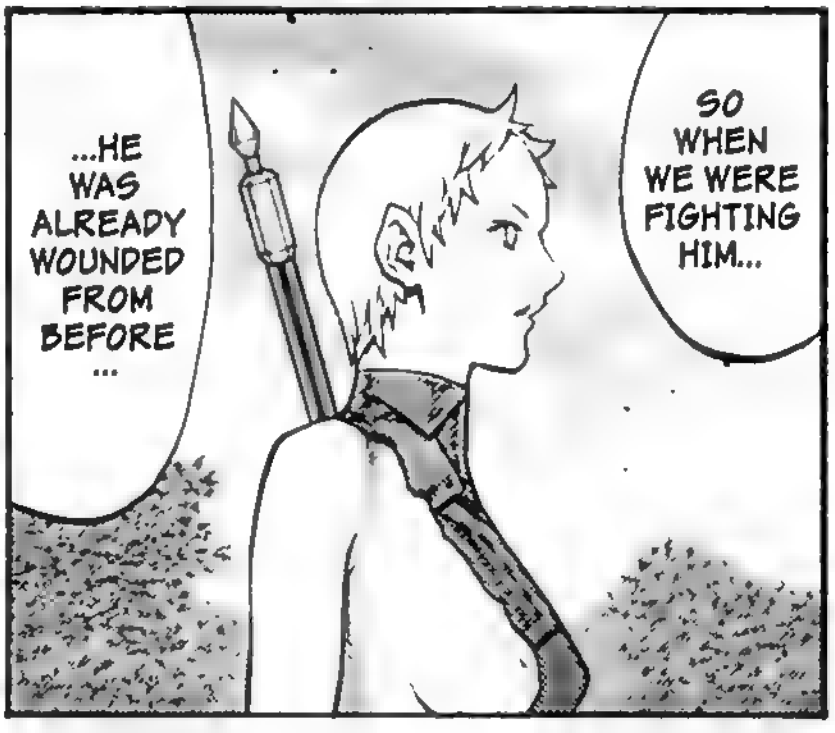
HUH?

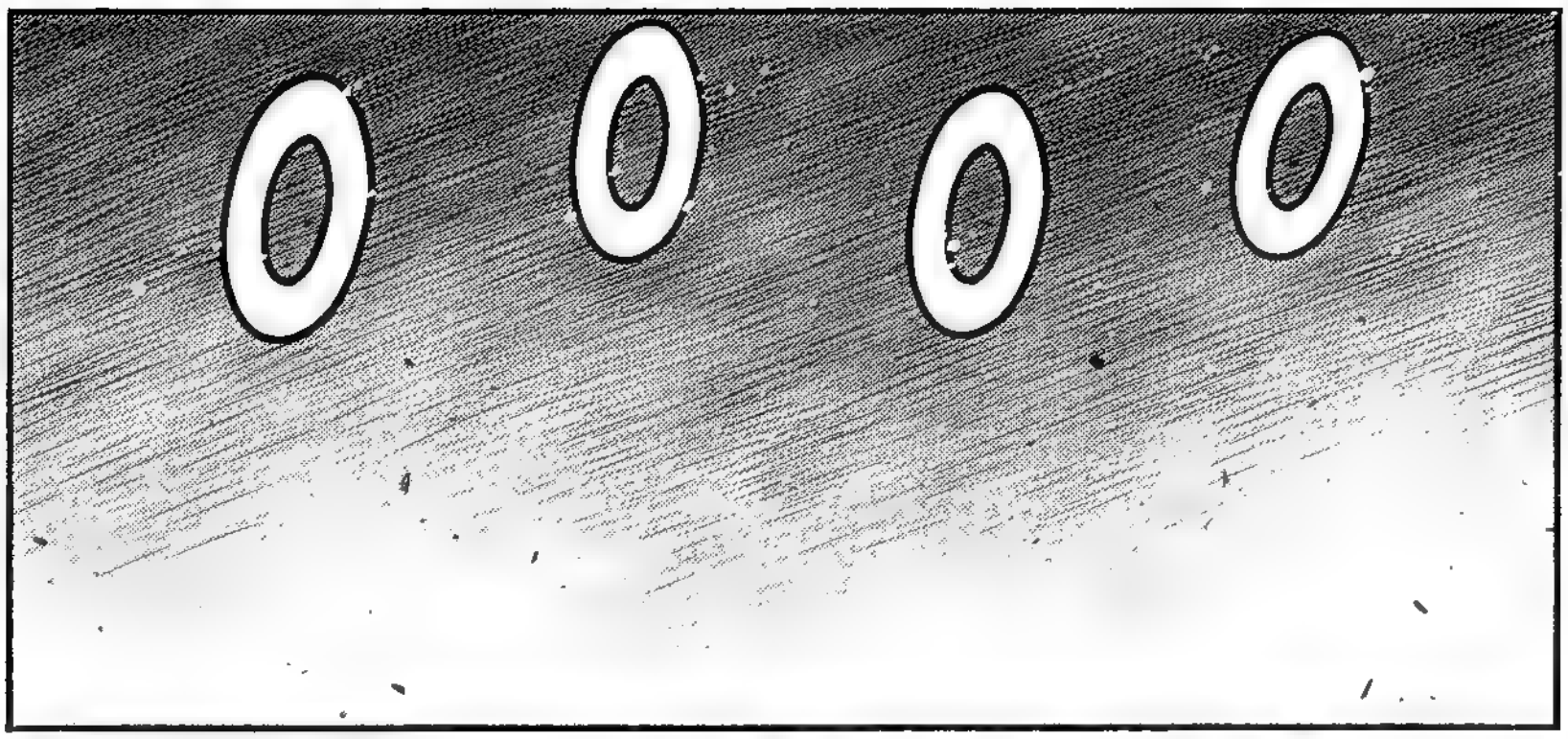
READ THIS WAY







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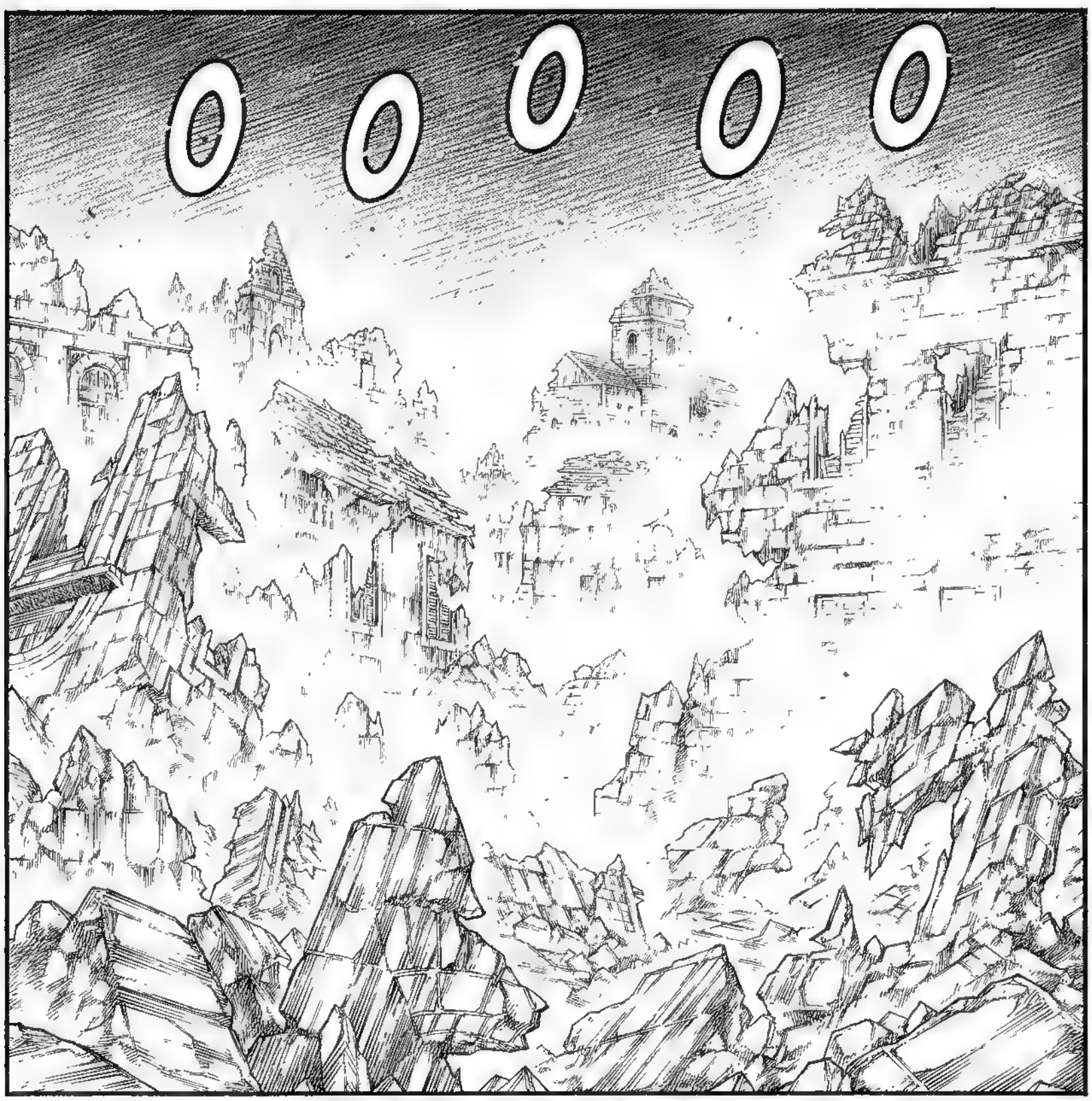
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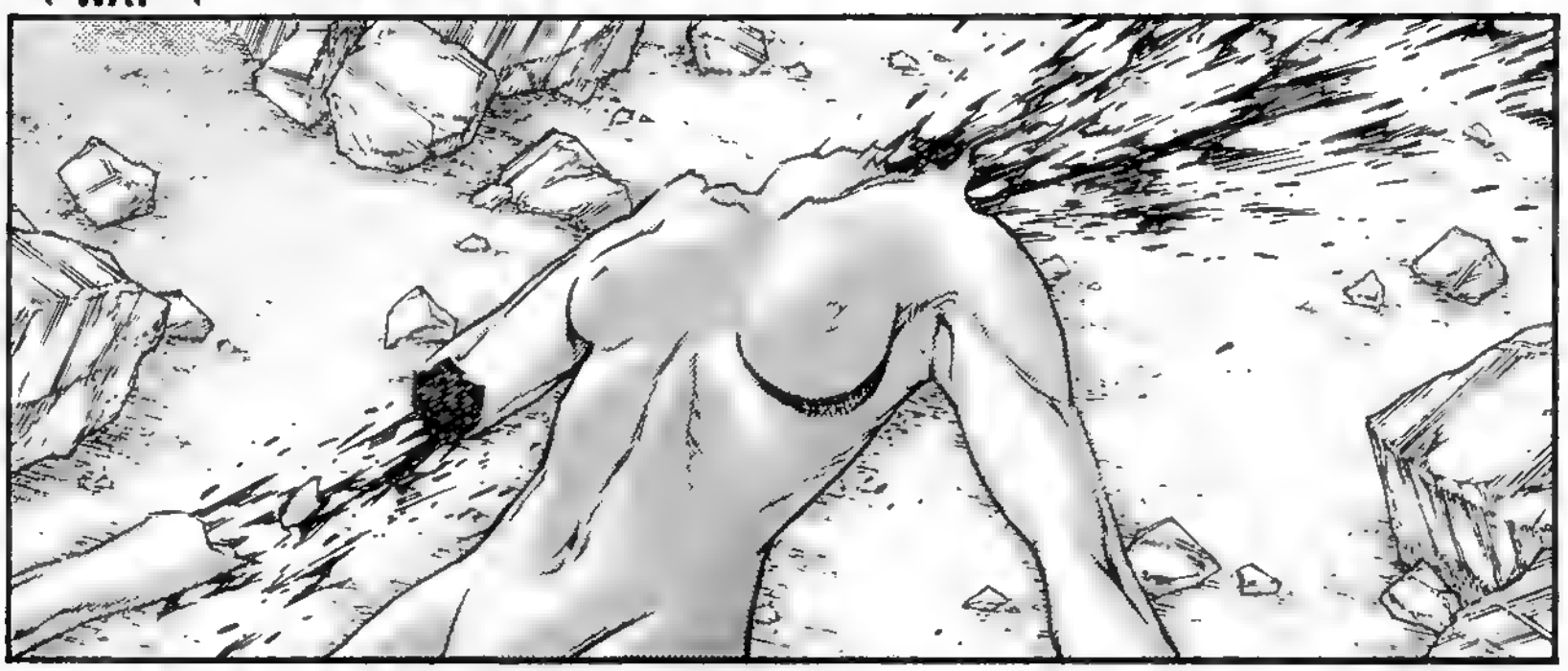
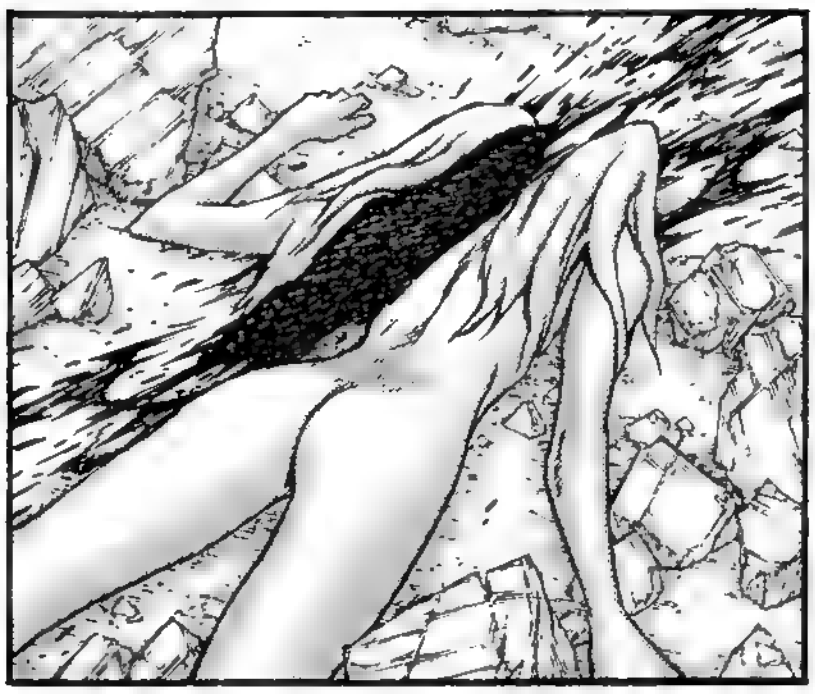
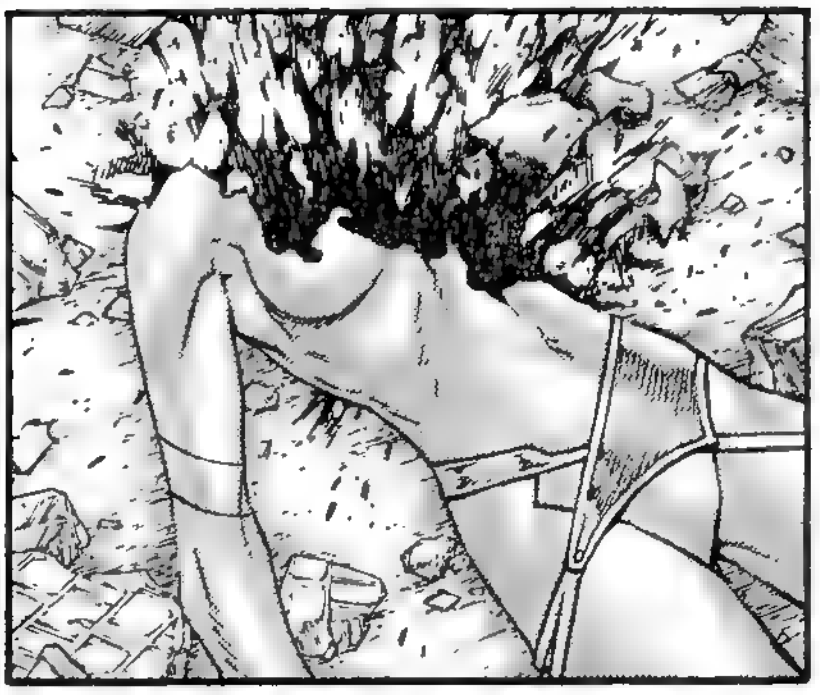
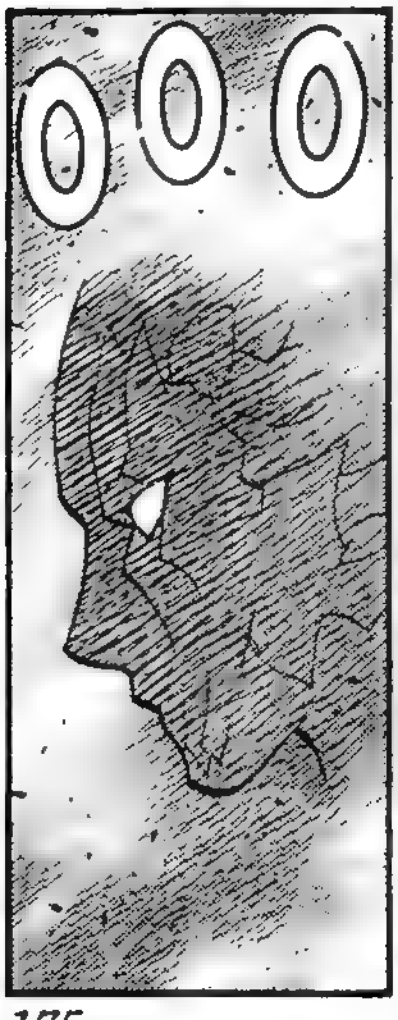
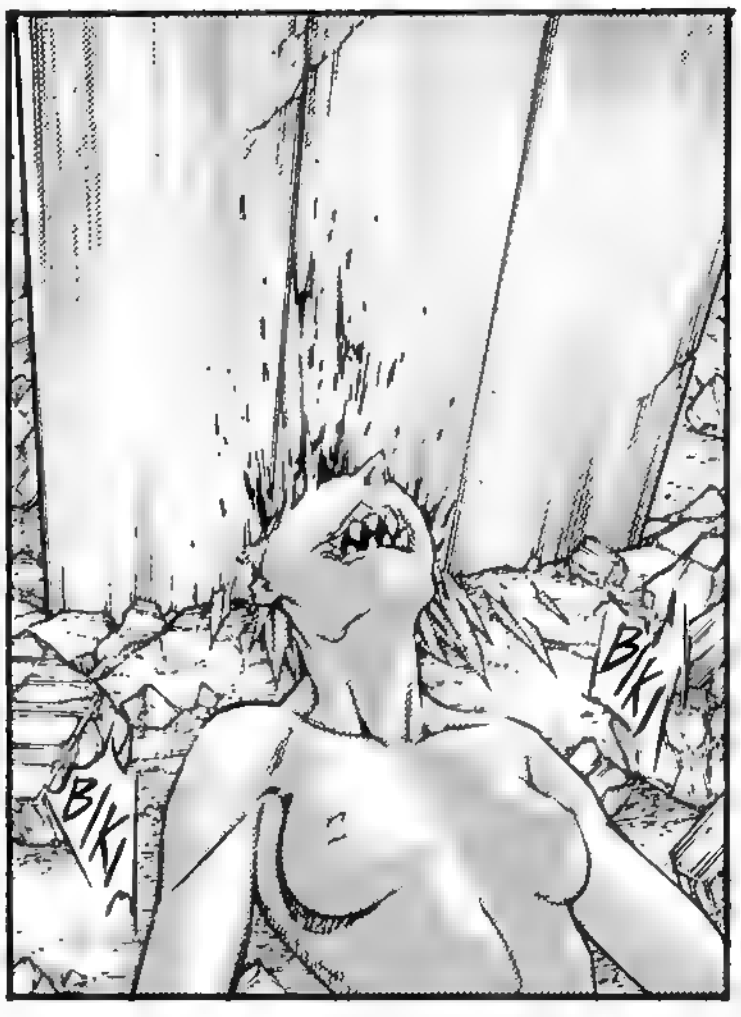
READ THIS WAY

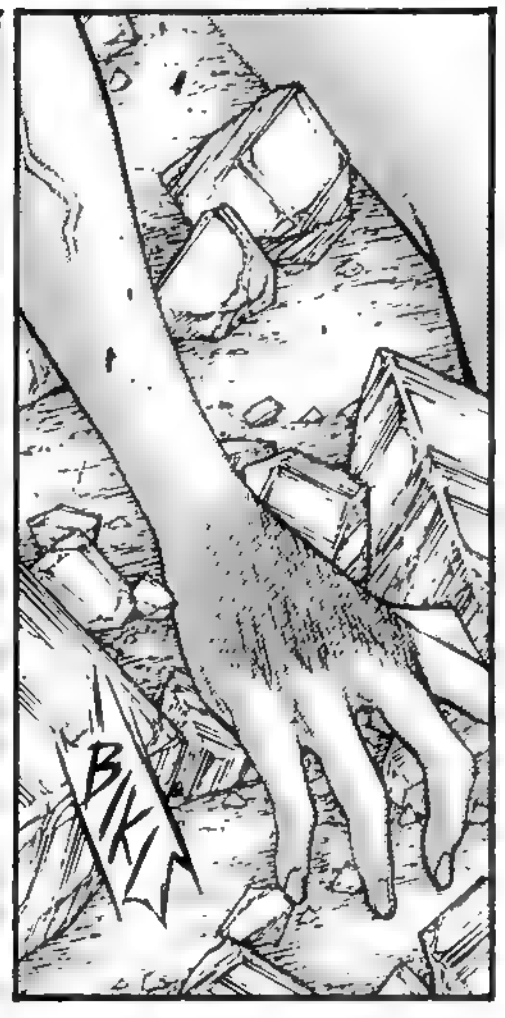


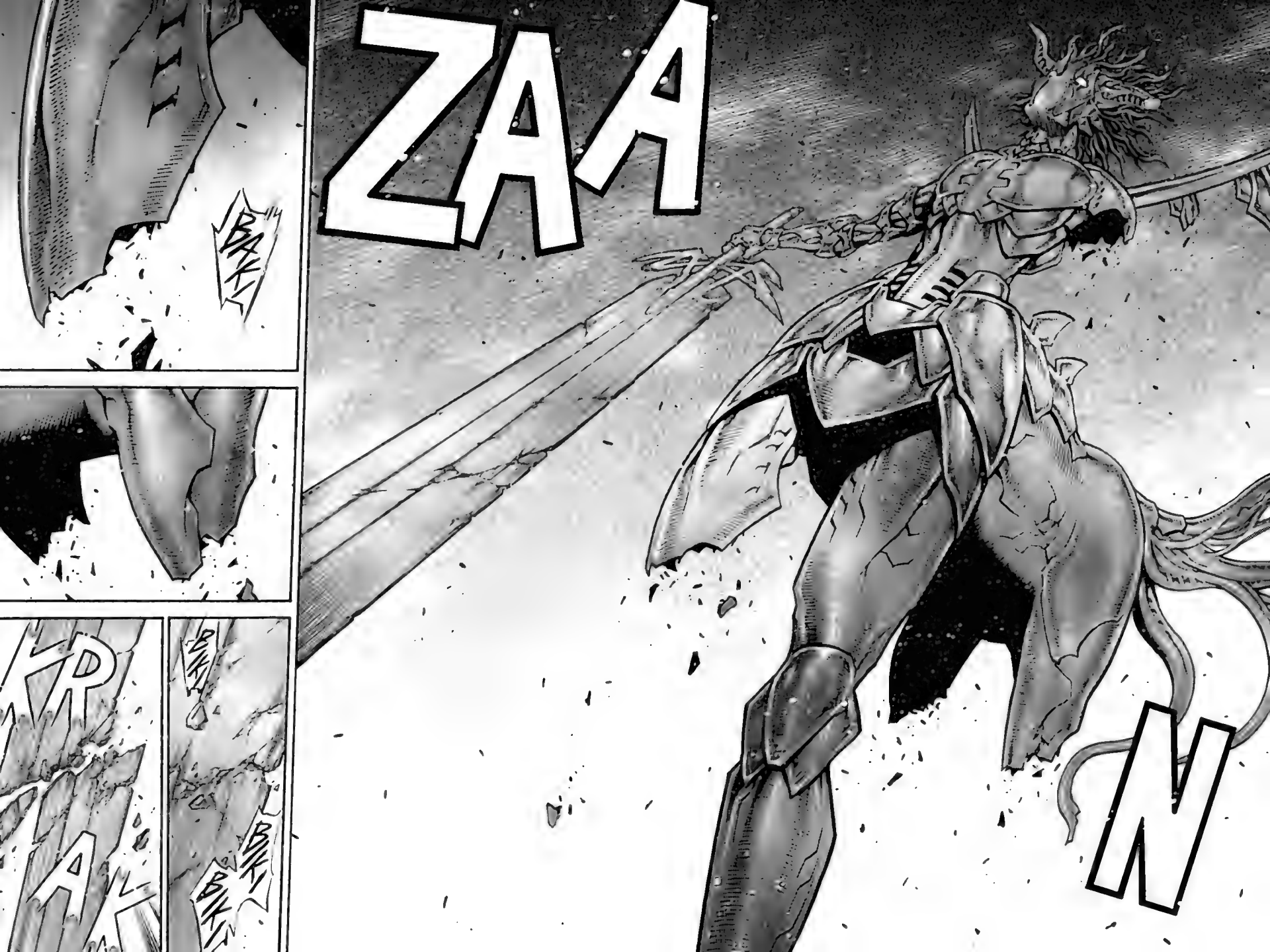








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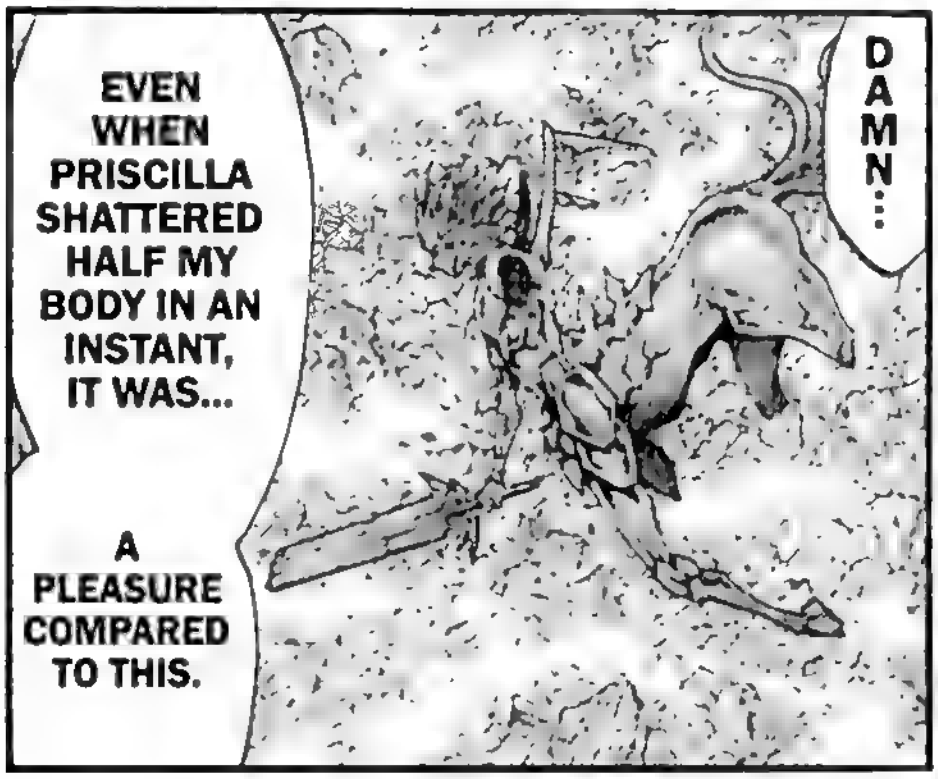
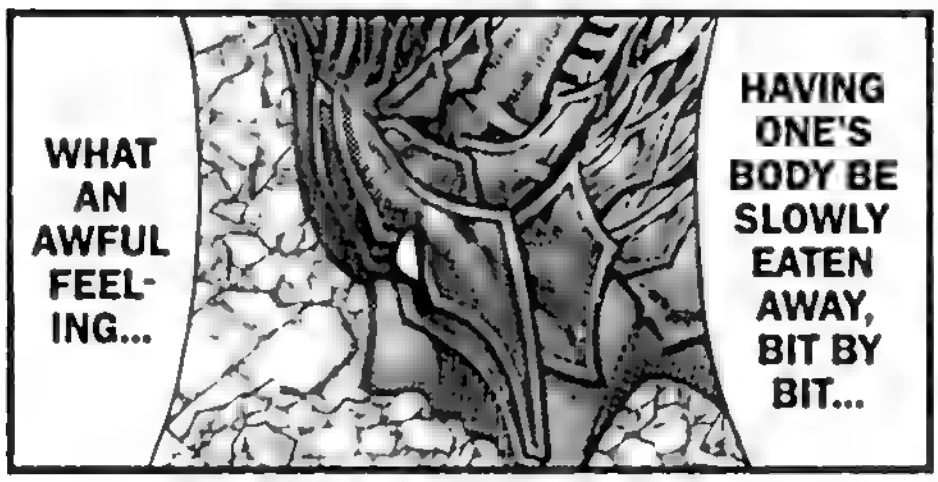
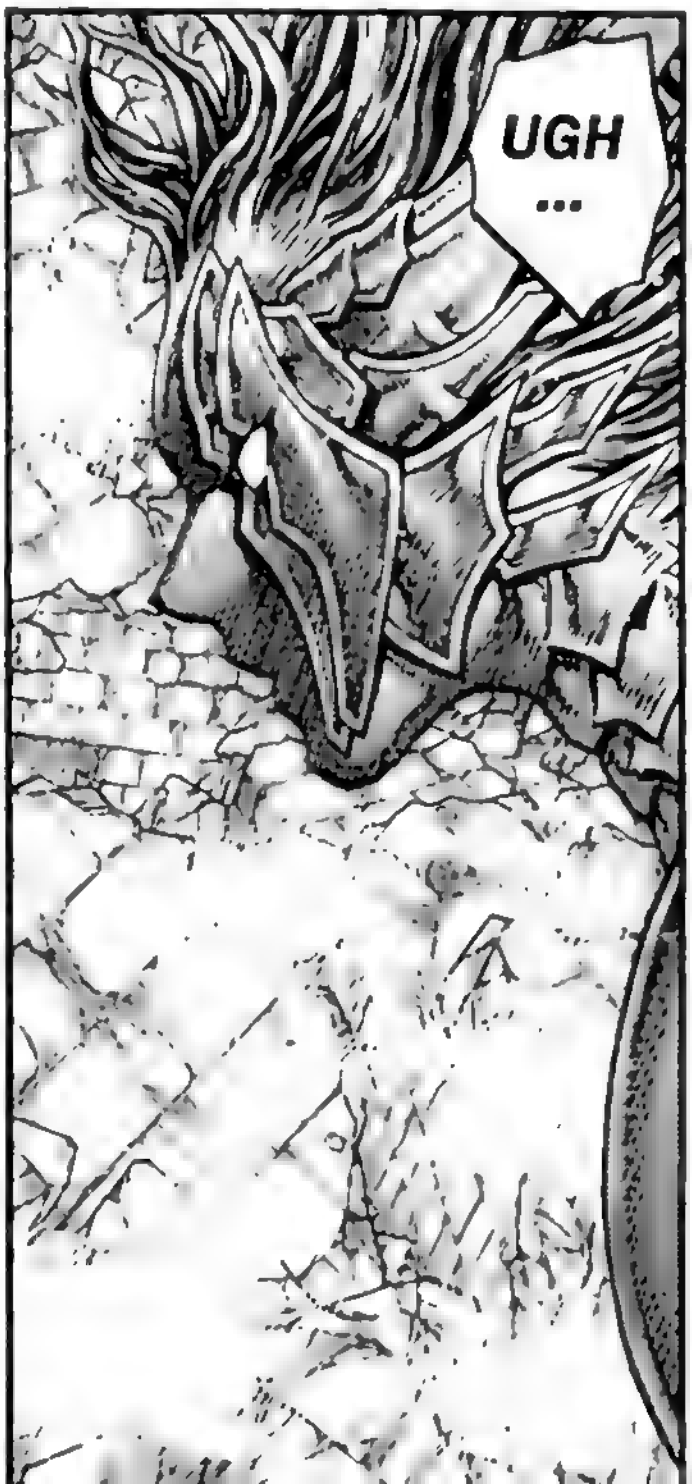

EVEN WHEN PRISCILLA SHATTERED HALF MY BODY IN AN INSTANT, IT WAS...
A PLEASURE COMPARED TO THIS.
DAMN...


WHAT AN AWFUL FEEL-ING...
HAVING ONE'S BODY BE SLOWLY EATEN AWAY, BIT BY BIT...


UGH ...

READ THIS WAY

GHAA

GHA GHA

TMP TMP

TMP

TMP

HMPH.

TMP

GHAA

TMP

GHA GHA

ZA AF

KR ASH

HAD I DEFEATED JUST ONE MORE...

...THE REST WOULD HAVE SCATTERED.

GH ...

crick

GH

GH

READ THIS WAY

KRAK

ZSH

GA SHA

KRNCH KRNCH KRNCH KRNCH KRNCH KRNCH KRNCH KRNCH

...WAS SURPASSED BY THE RELIEF I FELT WHEN THEY WOULD WITHDRAW.

AT SOME POINT, THE ANGER I FELT AT BEING UNABLE TO KILL THEM...

GA SHAK
!
GHH
GHH
GHA
GHAA
HAH
GHAA
FROM THE CROWNS OF THEIR HEADS TO THE SOLES OF THEIR FEET...
THEY ARE VILE CREATURES.
TRULY...

READ THIS WAY

KRNCH

KRNCH

KRNCH

KRNCH

...WHEN I ENTRUSTED PRISCILLA TO RAKI AND DROVE THEM FROM THE SOUTH.

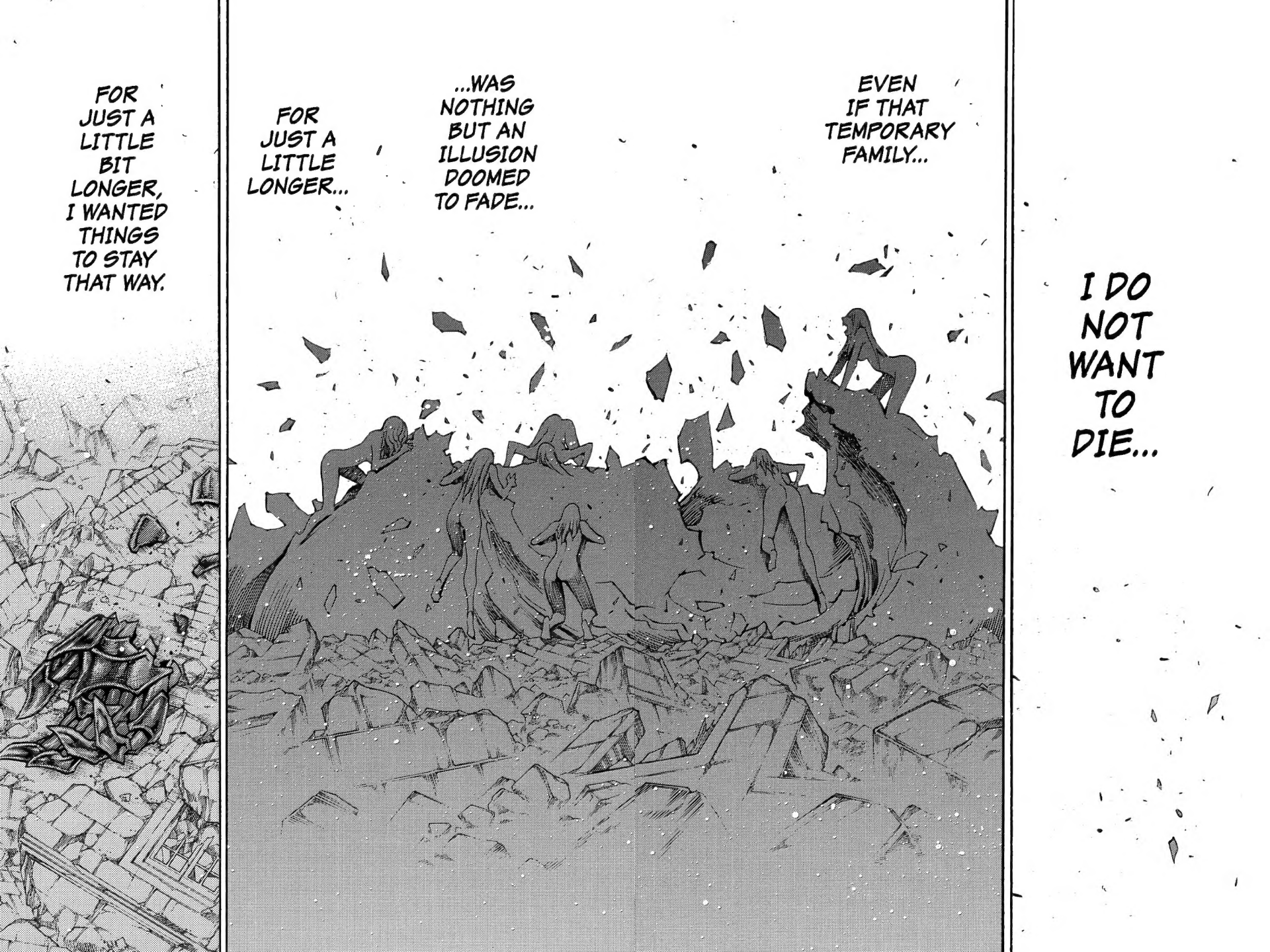
IT MUST HAVE BEEN AROUND THE TIME ...

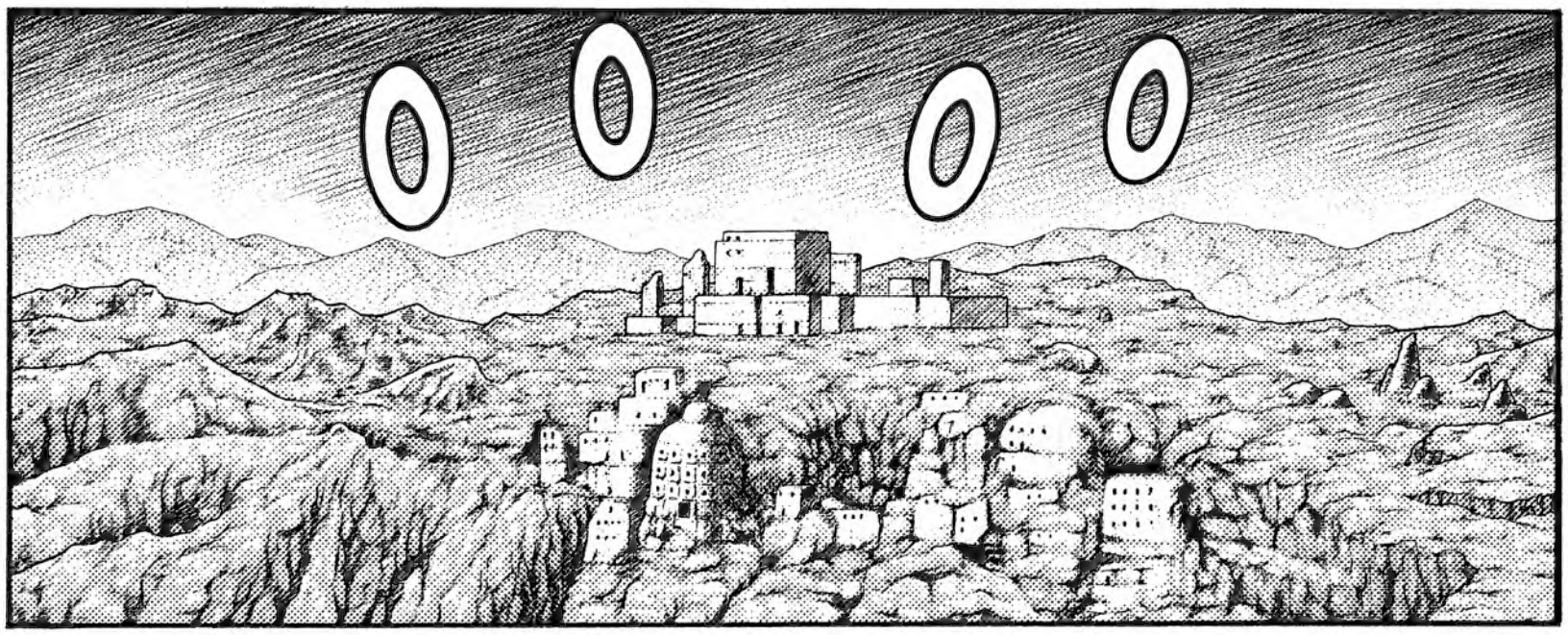
...I REALIZED THAT I WAS BECOMING SATISFIED WITH FEEDING LESS AND LESS.

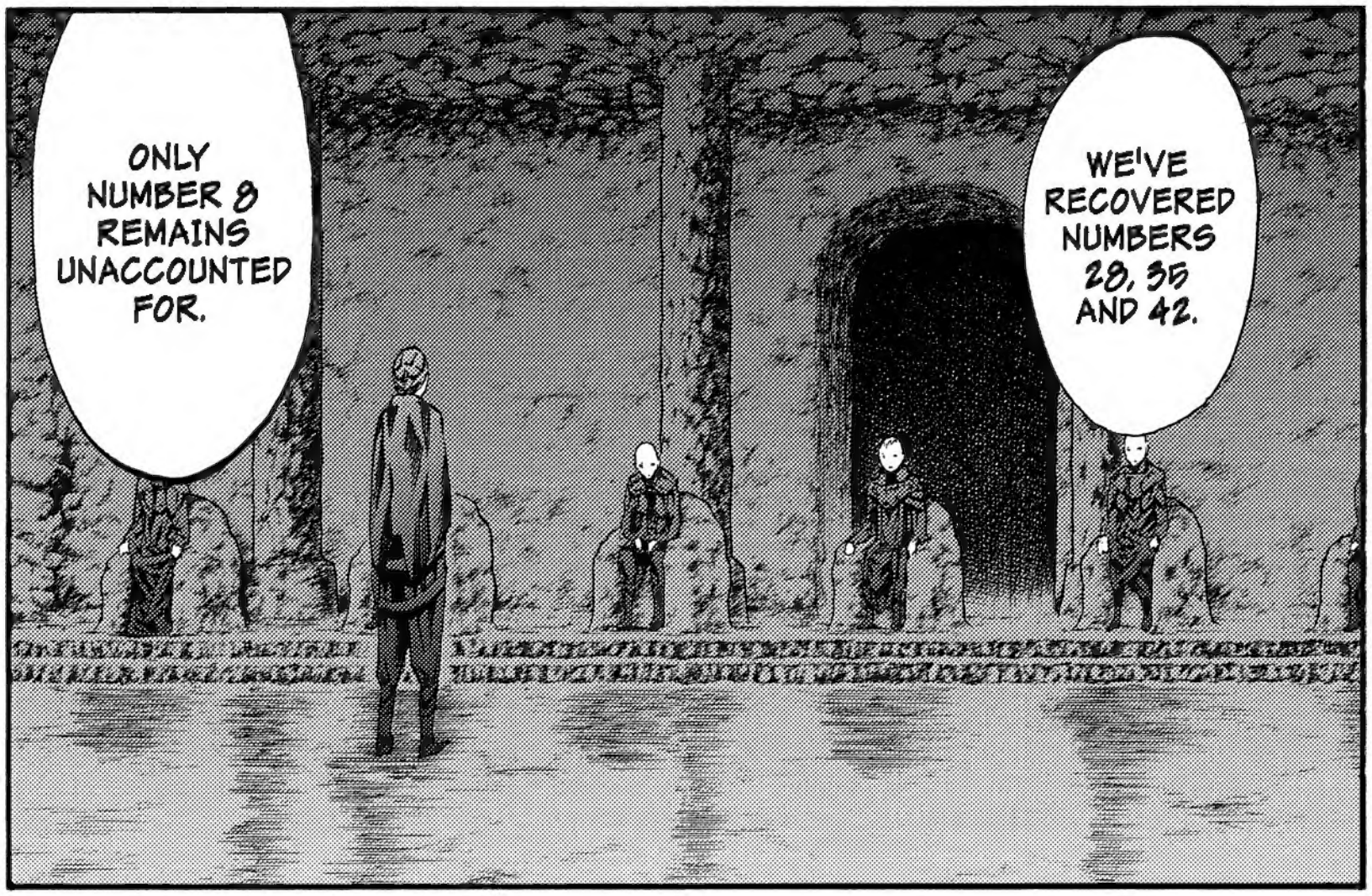
YET AS I WATCHED RAKI GROW UP WITH PRISCILLA AT HIS SIDE...

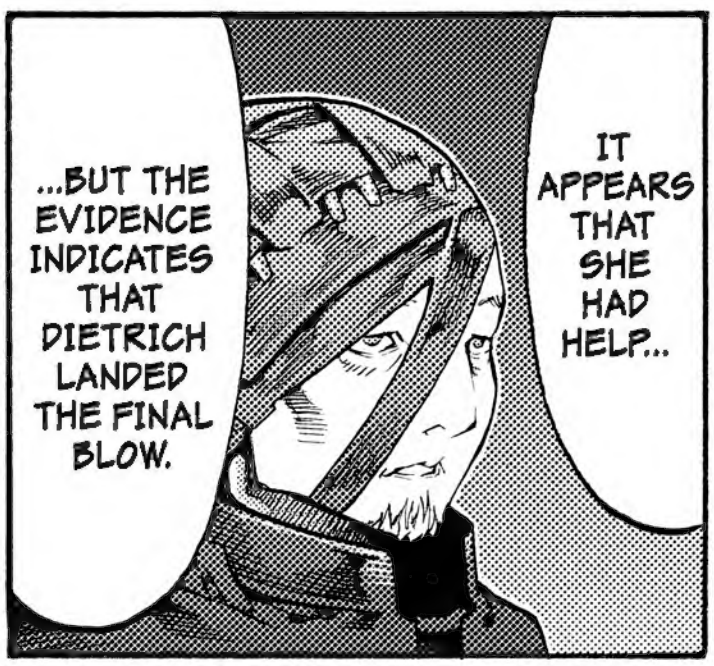
IT'S STRANGE... AT FIRST, ALL I WANTED...

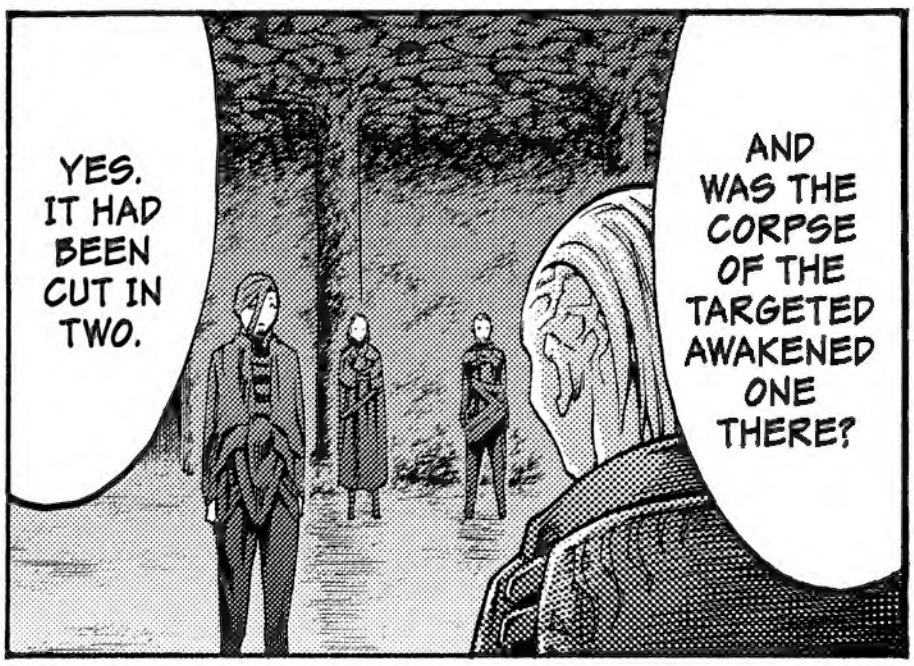
...WAS TO USE PRISCILLA TO BRING EVERYTHING UNDER MY CONTROL.


FOR JUST A LITTLE BIT LONGER, I WANTED THINGS TO STAY THAT WAY.
FOR JUST A LITTLE LONGER...
...WAS NOTHING BUT AN ILLUSION DOOMED TO FADE...
EVEN IF THAT TEMPORARY FAMILY...
I DO NOT WANT TO DIE...


O O O O


ONLY NUMBER 8 REMAINS UNACCOUNTED FOR.
WE'VE RECOVERED NUMBERS 28, 35 AND 42.


...BUT THE EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT DIETRICH LANDED THE FINAL BLOW.
IT APPEARS THAT SHE HAD HELP...


YES. IT HAD BEEN CUT IN TWO.
AND WAS THE CORPSE OF THE TARGETED AWAKENED ONE THERE?

READ THIS WAY

...
RUBEL?

WHAT DO YOU THINK ...

UNKNOWN PARTIES HAVE BEEN CASTING THEIR SHADOWS QUITE A BIT RECENTLY.

IT'S SIMILAR TO WHAT OCCURRED AT LACROIX IN THE WEST.

OUR FIRST PRIORITY MUST BE FREEING RENÉE FROM RIFUL'S CLUTCHES.

BUT THIS IS A SMALL MATTER BEFORE OTHER PRESSING AFFAIRS.

FORGIVE ME FOR BEING SO USELESS.

AT THE TIME, I WAS QUICKLY KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS.

I HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST IDEA.

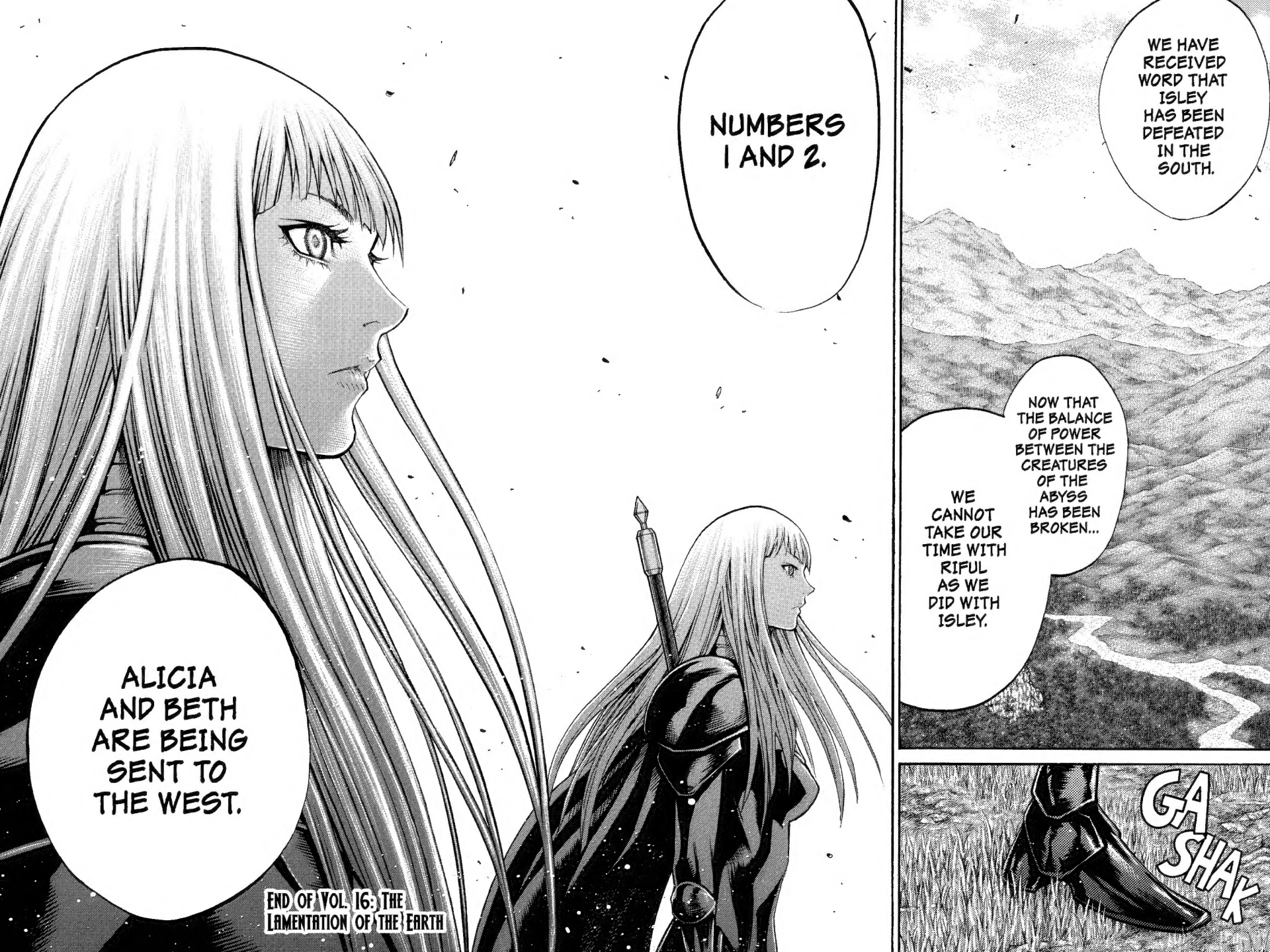
!

HOWEVER, THIS TIME THEY WILL ONLY ACT AS TRACKERS.

I SEE.

A NEW GROUP OF ABYSS FEEDERS HAS ALREADY BEEN RELEASED IN THE WEST.

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT.


NUMBERS 1 AND 2.
ALICIA AND BETH ARE BEING SENT TO THE WEST.
END OF VOL. 16: THE LAMENTATION OF THE EARTH
WE HAVE RECEIVED WORD THAT ISLEY HAS BEEN DEFEATED IN THE SOUTH.
NOW THAT THE BALANCE OF POWER BETWEEN THE CREATURES OF THE ABYSS HAS BEEN BROKEN...
WE CANNOT TAKE OUR TIME WITH RIFUL AS WE DID WITH ISLEY.
GA SHAK